4K96-9

THE COMMERCIAL KING AND TANNER CRAB FISHERIES IN THE BERING SEA MANAGEMENT AREA

A REPORT TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

By

Rance Morrison, Robert K. Gish, James P. Cofske
and
Mary C. Schwenzfeier

Regional Information Report [1] No. 4K96-9

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division Of Commercial Fisheries Management and Development
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

February 1996

[1] Contribution 4K96-9 from the Dutch Harbor area office. The Regional Information Report Seriers was established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished division reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterpreted data. To accommodate timely reporting of recently collected information, reports in this series undergo only limited internal review and may be subsequently finalized and published in the formal literature. Consequently, these reports should not be cited without prior approval of the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries Managment and Development.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont.)

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF TABLES (Cont.)

LIST OF FIGURES

KING CRAB STATISTICAL AREA Q
BERING SEA

Description

The Bering Sea king crab registration area, Statistical Area Q, includes all waters north of Cape Sarichef, south of Point Hope, and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867; it excludes those waters of Bristol Bay, and south of 55°30' North Latitude and west of 171° West Longitude. Area Q is separated into the Pribilof and Northern Districts. The Pribilof District includes the waters south of Cape Newenham. The Northern District incorporates all of the waters north of Cape Newenham, and is further divided into three sections. The Saint Matthew Island Section includes the waters north of Cape Newenham and south of Cape Romanzof. Norton Sound Section includes all waters north of Cape Romanzof, south of Cape Prince of Wales, and east of 168° West Longitude. The Saint Lawrence Island Section encompasses all remaining waters of the district (Figure 1).

Historic Background

The king crab fishery in the Pribilof Islands started in 1973 when vessels targeted blue king crab in the vicinity of St. George and St. Paul Islands. The first reported catch was 1.2 million pounds taken by eight vessels between July and October. Crab averaged 7.3 pounds, and catch per unit effort (CPUE) was 26 crabs per pot.. A CPUE of 26 crabs has never been attained by the fleet since. The CPUE declined from 20 crabs per pot in the 1974/75 season to 12 crabs per pot during the 1976/77 season. From the 1977/78 season through the 1981/82 season the CPUE remained nearly constant at an average of 8 crabs per pot. The CPUE declined to 5 crab per pot during the 1982/83 season. Three crabs or less per pot were observed during the six subsequent seasons. Average weight remained relatively constant from the initial season through the conclusion of the 1987/88 season. Due to low population estimates in this district, the blue king crab fishery was closed beginning with the 1988/89 season (Table 1). The 1993 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) summer trawl survey indicated a marked increase in the abundance of red king crab, historically rare in the area. While no threshold level was established for Pribilof red king crab, survey results indicated a harvestable surplus did exist. For the first time a red king crab fishery was opened in the Pribilof district in September of 1993 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 3.4 million pounds.

During the Spring 1993 Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting regulations were adopted which changed the opening date of the St. Matthew king crab fishery from September 1 to September 15, concurrent to the king crab fishery in the Pribilof District. This action was taken to improve fleet distribution during the Pribilof and St. Matthew seasons, thereby reducing the number of vessels participating in each fishery. Also at this meeting the Board of Fisheries passed regulations which established pot limits for all vessels fishing king crab in the Bering Sea based on overall vessel length. In the Northern district, which includes the St. Matthew Island section, vessels over 125 feet were limited to 75 pots while those equal to or less than 125 feet were allowed a maximum of 60 pots. In the Pribilof district

pot limits were established at 50 and 40 for vessels greater than 125 feet and less than 125 feet in length overall respectively.

1995 Fishery - Pribilof District

In 1995 the Pribilof District was open to blue king crab harvest for the first time since 1987. Results from the NMFS trawl survey of the Bering Sea conducted in June and July of this year indicated a harvestable surplus of 5.0 million pounds of red king crab and 3.64 million pounds of blue king crab in the Pribilof area. A high degree of variance in the survey estimate for the Pribilof area prompted the department to reduce the harvestable surplus for both the red and blue king crab to a level more reflective of prior year's surveys and fishery performance. As a result a harvest guideline of 2.5 million pounds was established for red and blue king crab combined.

A total of 129 catcher vessels and one catcher-processor purchased buoy tags from ADF&G offices in Dutch Harbor and Kodiak for the 1995 season. Three of these vessels failed to obtain a tank inspection and did not participate. Tank inspections were began at 12:00 noon on September 14 and were conducted by ADF&G personnel stationed in Akutan, Dutch Harbor and St. Paul. Due to favorable weather in the Pribilof Islands, a total of 102 vessels elected to obtain tank inspections in the St. Paul Island harbor. Only one vessel was inspected at Akutan. As in past years, no shellfish staff were assigned to the port of King Cove. However, salmon management staff stationed in Cold Bay agreed to stand by to conduct inspections at King Cove or Cold Bay on an as-needed basis. No vessels requested a tank inspection in either of those locations. The number of vessels in this year's Pribilof fishery increased from 104 in 1994. Most of the increase in effort was comprised of salmon limit seine vessels, 58 feet in length, from the Sand Point and King Cove area. This year a total of 5,400 pots were registered for the Pribilof area compared to 4,675 pots in 1994 (Table 2).

The 1995 Pribilof red and blue king crab fishery opened concurrent to the St. Matthew blue king crab fishery on September 15 at 12:00 noon. Unlike the 1994 season, which was managed on prior year's fishery performance, management of the 1995 fishery was based on daily in-season vessel catch reports. As a result of the large number of vessels registered, a total of 61 vessels signed up to report via single side band radio (SSB) and marine satellite communications (MCI). Projections, based on in-season reports indicated a combined total of 2.5 million pounds of red and blue king crab would be harvested by 12:00 noon on September 22. These projections showed a split between the catch of red and blue king crabs to be somewhat even at 1.3 and 1.2 million pounds respectively. Based on these projections, the fishery was closed after 7 days at 12:00 noon on September 22. The actual harvest of 0.9 million pounds of red king crab and 1.2 million pounds of blue king crab, a combined harvest of 2.1 million pounds, was below the 2.5 million pound GHL (Tables 1 and 2).

This year's catch, from approximately 35,000 pot lifts (both red and blue king crab combined), came predominately from the seven statistical areas directly surrounding the Pribilof Islands, similar to the distribution of effort during 1993 and 1994 seasons (Tables 3 and 4).

A total of eight shore based processors, and 2 floating processors purchased crabs during the 1995 fishery. One independent buyer purchased Pribilof red king crab exclusively. The 1995 ex-vessel price of $3.37 for red king crab and $2.92 for blue king crab was the lowest in 10 years. The total value of

the 1995 Pribilof red king crab fishery was $3 million compared to $8 million in 1994 and $13 million in 1993 (Table 2).

A total of 151 landings made up the 0.9 million pound harvest of red king crab. Average weight of red king crab harvested in 1995 was 8.1 pounds, similar to last year's average of 8.0 pounds. The CPUE for red king crab was down from 6 in 1994 to 3.2 in 1995.

A total of 152 landings made up the 1.3 million pound harvest of blue king crab. Average weight of blue king crab was 7.3 pounds, similar to the 7.4 average caught during the last Pribilof blue king crab fishery in 1988 and 2.5 pounds larger, on average, than blue king crab harvested from the 1995 St. Matthew fishery (Tables 1 and 5). A (CPUE) of 4.8 was a marked improvement over the 1988 season CPUE of 2.0, when this species was last targeted in the Pribilof area. The 1995 ex-vessel price of Pribilof blue king crab was $2.92 per pound, $.60 higher than the price paid for St. Matthew blue king crab and was likely due to the larger average size of the Pribilof catch (Tables 2 and 6). The total value of the 1995 Pribilof blue king crab fishery was $3.6 million.

Weather conditions during the 1995 fishery were unseasonably mild. Despite favorable weather, a number of vessels bound for King Cove failed to reach their delivery location in the 24 hours following the fishery closure as allowed by regulation. These vessels were met at the dock in King Cove by officers of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection and cited for late delivery.

Stock Status

Blue king crab stocks in the Pribilof District appear to be above the established threshold and stable. Red king crab stocks currently have no established threshold in the Pribilof District. However, confidence in the population estimate derived from the NMFS summer trawl survey of the area around the Pribilof Islands is low due to the apparent clumped distribution of crab in that area as evidenced by a large number of the legal crabs caught at a single sampling station. Both red and blue king crab in this area should be managed conservatively.

1995 Fishery - St. Matthew Island Section

Based on the 1995 NMFS summer trawl survey of the Bering Sea a GHL for St. Matthew blue king crab was set at 2.4 million pounds (Table 6). A total of 90 vessels, including one catcher-processor, purchased buoy tags from ADF&G offices in Dutch Harbor and Kodiak. All 90 vessels received tank inspections by ADF&G personnel stationed in Akutan, Dutch Harbor and St. Paul. This compares to a total of 87 vessels which registered and received tank inspections for the 1994 fishery. The number of vessels registered in the last three seasons has remained well below the 174 vessels which registered for the 1992 fishery. A total of 5,970 pots were registered for the 1995 St. Matthew fishery compared to 5,685 pots in 1994 and 5,895 pots in 1993 (Table 6).

The 1995 fishery opened at 12:00 noon on September 15, concurrent to the Pribilof district king crab fishery. Unlike the 1994 season, which was managed on prior year's fishery performance, the 1995

fishery was managed on daily in-season vessel catch reports. A total of 54 vessels volunteered to provide daily catch information via single side band radio (SSB) and marine satellite communications (MCI). Catch projections, based on radio report data, indicated the harvest would reach 3.4 million pounds by 12:00 noon on September 20. As a result, the fishery was closed after 5 days of fishing at 12:00 noon on September 20. The 1995 harvest total of 3.2 million pounds, from 111 landings, exceeded the 2.4 million pound pre-season harvest guideline (Table 7).

This year's catch, which resulted from approximately 48,500 pot lifts, came predominately from two statistical areas south of St. Matthew Island, similar to the location of the 1992, 1993, and 1994 harvests (Table 8). All information regarding the 1995 catcher-processor effort is confidential since less than three catcher processors participated in the 1995 St. Matthew fishery (Table 9).

Average weight of St. Matthew blue king crab for the 1995 season was 4.8 pounds. This is the same average weight recorded in 1993, up from the 1994 average of 4.6 pounds. The 1995 CPUE was in excess of 13 crabs per pot compared to the 13, 11, 10, and 20 crab per pot averages during the prior four seasons (Tables 5 and 8).

A total of six shore based processors and four floating processors purchased crab during the 1995 fishery. The 1995 ex-vessel price for St. Matthew blue king crab was $2.32 per pound, the lowest price paid since 1985 when the fishermen were given $1.60 per pound (Tables 6 and 10). The value of the 1995 St. Matthew blue king crab fishery was $7.1 million. This is less than half the $15 million value of the 1994 fishery (Table 6).

Stock Status

Blue king crab stocks in the St. Matthew Island area appear to be above established thresholds. Based on the 1995 NMFS summer survey, legal male abundance decreased from 2.5 million in 1994 to 2.4 million in 1995. This stock remains below historic levels and continues to be managed as a depressed fishery.

KING CRAB REGISTRATION AREA T
BRISTOL BAY

Introduction

The Bristol Bay king crab Area T includes all waters north of Cape Sarichef, east of 168° West longitude and south of the latitude of Cape Newenham and includes all waters of Bristol Bay (Figure 1)

Historic Background

Commercial king crab fishing in the Bering Sea began with the Japanese in 1930 and continued until 1940. They returned to the fishery in 1953 and remained until 1974. The Russian king crab fleet operated in the eastern Bering Sea from 1959 until 1971. United States fishermen entered the eastern Bering Sea fishery with trawl gear in 1947. Effort and catches declined in the 1950's with no catch being reported in 1959. A period of fluctuating low catches followed through 1966 before expansion to the full scale fishery of the mid to late 1970's. As in other areas of the state, the stocks crashed in the early 1980's and are currently depressed.)

With the decline of king crab stocks in other areas of the state in 1968, U. S. effort continued to increase in the eastern Bering Sea with a record catch of 129.9 million pounds landed during the 1980 season (Table 11). The eastern Bering Sea king crab fishery traditionally harvested red king crab from the Bering Sea and Bristol Bay waters north of Unimak Island and the Alaska Peninsula from Cape Sarichef to Port Heiden.

In 1980 the Board of Fisheries made the Southeastern District of the Bering Sea (the major red king crab grounds) an exclusive registration area. It was named Bristol Bay, Registration Area T. Vessels registering for and fishing in this area are prohibited from fishing in any other exclusive registration area leaving only the Bering Sea (Area Q) and Adak (Area R) as alternative fishing areas.

As a result of the NMFS trawl survey, Area T remained closed during the 1983 season due to the lowest estimated king crab population on record. Small females carrying fewer eggs and high predator abundance also contributed to the closure decision.

Since the reopening of the fishery in 1984, catches slowly increased to over 20.3 million pounds harvested during the 1990 season. Due to the large number of catcher-processors and floating processors in the fishery and the inability of the department to monitor these catches, an observer program was implemented in 1988. Fishing effort has increased dramatically from 89 vessels in 1984 to over 300 vessels in 1991. With the increase in fishing effort, the amount of pots being used by the fleet also increased, with over 90,000 registered in 1991.

In 1992, the Board of Fisheries established a 250 pot limit for the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery. This measure was designed to assist the manager's ability to monitor the fishery and control the harvest. Pot limits, which were to be applied through a buoy sticker program, were designed to assist in-season management of the fisheries and reduce the potential for pot loss.

Immediately following the 1992 Bristol Bay red king crab fishery, buoy sticker requirements were suspended due to a high failure rate of the stickers adhering properly to buoys. Despite suspension of the buoy sticker requirement, the 250 pot limit remained in effect until repealed by the NMFS on November 30. This action was due to perceived inconsistencies with provisions of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island king and Tanner crab Federal Management Plan (FMP), which mandated application of pot limits in a nondiscriminatory manner.

In the spring of 1993 the Alaska Board of Fisheries passed new regulations in which pot limits on all vessels fishing king and Tanner crab in the Bering Sea (based on overall vessel length) were

established. For the king crab Area T fishery, vessels in excess of 125 feet in overall length were limited to 250 pots and vessels less than 125 feet in length overall were allowed 200 pots. The pot limits are applied through a buoy tag program from the Dutch Harbor and Kodiak ADF&G offices.

Projected harvest shortfalls in both the St. Matthew blue king and Pribilof Islands red king crab fisheries in mid-September 1993 prompted a meeting in Seattle between fishermen, industry representatives and staff from ADF&G and NMFS to discuss methods to improve in-season data collection and management. A sales representative from MCI Communications Incorporated presented information at that meeting about satellite communications software currently available for confidential communication between ADF&G and vessels at sea, which could be used for daily in-season catch reporting. As a result of this meeting, ADF&G purchased the necessary computer hardware and software for retrieval of daily satellite transmitted catch messages from vessels at sea. Historic fishery data is summarized in Tables 11, 12 ,and 13.

Results of the NMFS 1994 summer trawl survey of the Eastern Bering Sea indicated declines in all size classes of both male and female red king crab in the Bristol Bay area. Compared to observations made during the 1993 survey, the abundance index of large male crab declined 25%. Based on 1994 survey results, large female abundance was estimated at 7.5 million crabs, which was below the minimum threshold of 8.4 million crab. As a result, the Bristol Bay area was not open to fishing for the 1994 season.

1995 Fishery

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery did not open for the 1995 season due to depressed red king crab stocks in the Bristol Bay statistical area T.

Stock Status

The 1995 NMFS summer trawl survey of the Eastern Bering Sea indicated no significance change in the abundance of mature male and female red king crab from estimates made from the 1994 survey. Although the 1995 survey indicated a slight increase in the number of immature, prerecruit and legal sized crabs relative to 1994, the stock remains depressed. The relative abundance of large females remains at 8.4 million animals. This is equal to the threshold level of large female crabs which must be exceeded in order to allow for a commercial harvest of male crabs. As a result, the fishery remained closed for the 1995 season, the second consecutive closure of the area due to insufficient numbers of large mature female crab.

BERING SEA BROWN KING CRAB

Description

The Bering Sea king crab registration area, Statistical Q, as described in 5 AAC 34.900, includes all waters north of Cape Sarichef, south of Point Hope, and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention

Line of 1867; it excludes those waters of Bristol Bay, and south of 55° 30' ; North Latitude and west of 171° West Longitude. Area Q is separated into the Pribilof and Northern Districts. The Pribilof District includes the waters south of Cape Newenham. The Northern District incorporates all of the waters north of Cape Newenham.

Introduction

Commercial harvest of the Bering Sea brown king is allowed as provided in 5 AAC 34.910 under conditions of a permit issued by the commissioner. The first recorded commercial brown king crab harvest in the Bering Sea was in 1981 in the Pribilof District and in 1982 in the St. Matthew section of the Northern District (Tables 14 and 15).

At the Spring 1993 Board of Fisheries meeting a pot limit was imposed on all vessels fishing king crab in the Bering Sea where vessels in the Pribilof district are allowed a maximum of 50 pots and vessels in the St. Matthew district are allowed a maximum of 75 pots. (During the March 1995 Board of Fisheries meeting pot limits for the deep water crab fisheries in the Bering Sea were addressed, however the board decided not to include Bering Sea brown king crab pot limits in the discussion because pot limits for that fishery had been considered during the 1993 meeting. Therefore the issue can not be up for reconsideration until the 1996 Board convenes.)

1995 Fishery - Pribilof District

Seven vessels registered and participated in the Pribilof District fishery in 1995. Twenty two landings were made for a total catch of 341,700 pounds (Table 14). Overall effort and catch were at a ten year high this season with the CPUE of 9 crabs per pot, down from last year's CPUE of 12. Average weight of landed brown king crabs remained at 4.1 pounds during the last two seasons (Table 14).

1995 Northern District

Four vessels registered for the Northern District in 1995. Four landings were made for a total catch of 1,200 pounds. The CPUE was 1 crab per pot averaging 4.9 pounds (Table 15).

Stock Status

There are no annual abundance estimates made for Bering Sea brown king crab stocks. High catches in the early years of the fishery declined- as the virgin stock was exploited.

BERING SEA SCARLET KING CRAB

Introduction

The Bering Sea king crab registration area, Statistical Area Q, includes all waters north of Cape Sarichef, south of Point Hope, and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867; it excludes those waters of Bristol Bay, and south of 55°30' North Latitude and west of 171° West Longitude. Area Q is separated into the Pribilof and Northern Districts. The Pribilof District includes the waters south of Cape Newenham. The Northern District incorporates all of the waters north of Cape Newenham, and is further divided into three sections. The Saint Matthew Island Section includes the waters north of Cape Newenham and south of Cape Romanzof. Norton Sound Section includes all waters north of Cape Romanzof, south of Cape Prince of Wales, and east of 168° West Longitude. The Saint Lawrence Island Section encompasses all remaining waters of the district.

Historic Background

Scarlet king crab, *(Lithodes couesi,)* are harvested under authority of a permit as authorized in 5AAC 35.082. Scarlet king crab have traditionally been caught from the Bering Sea management area Q mainly as indicated bycatch in the *C. tanneri* and blue king crab fisheries. Vessels fishing for brown king crab have registered for this fishery, however. (Historic information regarding vessel effort and harvest is below minimum standards and not available for public dissemination.)

1995 Fishery

A total of five vessels registered for scarlet red king crab in the Pribilof District of the Bering Sea during the 1995 season. Four pounds with a CPUE of less than one crab.

Even though three vessels registered in the St. Matthew Section of the Northern District registration area, no deliveries were made.

Stock Status

No annual abundance estimates are available for scarlet king crab stocks. However, onboard observers have been required on all vessels targeting on *C. tanneri* and *C. angulatus* and have collected information on size, sex, and species composition of the retained and non-retained scarlet king crab catch. This information is being analyzed and will be used to develop management measures for these stocks.

BERING SEA DISTRICT TANNER CRAB

Introduction

The Bering Sea District of Statistical Area J includes all waters of the Bering Sea north of the latitude of Cape Sarichef and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867. This district is divided into the Eastern and Western Subdistricts, east and west of 173° West Longitude, respectively (Figure 2). The Eastern Subdistrict is further divided into the Norton Sound and General Sections. Two Tanner crab species, *Chionoecetes bairdi* and *C. opilio*, are commercially harvested in the Bering Sea District.

C. bairdi Tanner Crab
Historic Background

The first reported Tanner crab catches were made in 1968 incidental to the king crab fishery. In 1974 a directed *C. bairdi* crab fishery began. During the fall Board of Fisheries meeting in 1978, NMFS estimated as much as a 50% decline in *C. bairdi* stocks could be expected during the 1978/79 fishing season, and that the stock would continue to decline for several years. As predicted, the *C. bairdi* stocks showed a sharp decline. Catches decreased from 29.7 million pounds 1981, to 5.3 million pounds in 1983, to a total closure of the *C. bairdi* fishery in 1986 (Table 16).

Although prices remained high for *C. bairdi*, fishing effort decreased with stock abundance. The harvest of *C. bairdi* has been primarily from the Southeastern Subdistrict, currently called the Eastern Subdistrict. The historic catch of *C. bairdi*, by subdistrict and season, is summarized in Table 17.

During the Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting in March of 1992, regulations were adopted which set a 250 pot limit on all vessels fishing king and Tanner crab in the Bering Sea. The pot limits, which were to be applied through a buoy sticker program, were implemented to improve in-season management of the fisheries and to reduce the potential for pot loss.

On November 10, 1992 buoy sticker requirements were suspended due to a high failure rate of the stickers adhering properly to buoys. Despite suspension of the buoy sticker requirement, the 250 pot limit remained in effect until repealed by NMFS on November 30. This action by NMFS was due to perceived inconsistencies with provisions of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island king and Tanner crab FMP which mandates application of pot limits in a nondiscriminatory manner.

During the Spring 1993 Board of Fisheries meeting regulations were adopted which opened and closed the Bering Sea east of 168° West longitude to fishing for *C. bairdi* Tanner crab concurrent to the regulatory opening and emergency order closure of Area T red king crab. The Board of Fisheries also mandated a reopening of the Bering Sea between 163° and 173° West longitude for the *C. Bairdi* fishery 10 days following the closure of Area T king crab. This action by the Board of Fisheries was based on observer bycatch data and historic harvest patterns which indicated the majority of female red king crab bycatch in the Bering Sea king and Tanner crab fisheries came from waters east of 163° West longitude.

To reduce the number of pots and slow the harvest rate to allow sufficient time for in-season management, the board also passed regulations which set pot limits, based on vessel length, for all vessels fishing king and Tanner crab in the Bering Sea. Vessels in excess of 125 feet were limited to 250 pots and vessels 125 feet or less were limited to 200 pots.

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery failed to open for the 1994 season, the first closure since 1983. As a result, *C. bairdi* fishermen were limited to a harvest guideline of 7.5 million pounds in that portion of the Eastern Bering Sea west of 163° West Longitude.

1995 Fishery

The 1995 Bering Sea *C. Bairdi* Tanner crab fishery opened by regulation at 12:00 noon, November 1. For the second consecutive year the red king crab fishery in the Bristol Bay portion of the Bering Sea failed to open. As a result, only that portion of the Eastern Subdistrict west of 163° West longitude was open fishing for *C. bairdi* Tanner crab. The GHL for the area open to fishing was 5.5 million pounds.

Tank inspections began on October 31, in Dutch Harbor, Akutan, King Cove, and St. Paul. A total of 196 vessels, including 11 catcher-processors, registered for the fishery. One floating processor also registered for on-the-grounds processing. This compares to a total of 183 vessels (including 9 catcher processors) which registered and participated in the 1994 fishery, which was also limited to the Eastern Subdistrict west of 163° West longitude.

Despite ideal weather conditions throughout the course of the 1995 fishery, fishermen managed to harvest only 4.2 million pounds of the 5.5 million pound GHL during a 16 day season which was closed by emergency order at 12:00 noon on November 16. A total of 256 landings were made to processors in the Pribilof Islands, Akutan, Dutch Harbor , King Cove and to the one floating processor operating in Akutan Bay. Total landings included 25 vessels which checked out of the Bering Sea and delivered to processors in Kodiak at the close of the season.

Voluntary daily in-season catch reports received from 61 catcher vessels and mandatory observer reports from all 11 catcher processors indicated CPUE declined from 10 crab per pot in the opening days of the fishery to less than 6 crabs per pot on November 13, when the fishery closure was announced. Overall performance for the 1995 fishery was 8 crab per pot. This compares to a 13 crab per pot average for the prior 3 seasons (Table 16).

Average weight of *C. bairdi* Tanner crab harvested during the 1995 season was 2.3 pounds, identical to the prior three seasons (Table 18). The ex-vessel price paid for *C.* bairdi in 1995 was $2.80 per pound for a total fishery value of $11.7 million. This compares to an ex-vessel value of $3.75 per pound and a total fishery value of $28.5 million for the 1994 season (Table 19). Catch of *C. bairdi* by statistical area shown in Table 20.

The majority of the 1995 harvest of *C. bairdi* came from the southwest portion of the Eastern Subdistrict immediately west of 163° West Longitude. A less significant portion of the catch came from waters southwest of the Pribilof Islands (Table 17).

Stock Status

Results of the 1995 NMFS survey indicated total abundance of large male *C. bairdi* crabs ($\geq$ 135 mm) has continued to decline. According to NMFS this decrease is expected to continue and is a result of senescence of crabs which constituted strong year classes hatched in 1983 and 1984. At this time there is no evidence that significant recruitment to this stock will take place in the near future.

C. opilio Tanner crab

Historic Background

The first reported landings of *C. opilio* Tanner crab were made during the 1977/78 season incidental to *C. bairdi*. As a result of reductions in *C. bairdi* the annual harvest of *C. opilio* increased from 52.7 million pounds in 1981 to 97.9 million pounds in 1986. Catches in this fishery peaked at of 328.6 million pounds in 1991 (Tables 21 and 22).

1995 Fishery

The 1995 Bering Sea *C. opilio* fishery opened by regulation at 12:00 noon on January 15. A total of 253 vessels made 869 deliveries for a season harvest of 75.3 million pounds. A total of 506,802 pot pulls were reported pulled by the conclusion of the fishery (Table 21).

The pre-season guideline harvest level (GHL) for the 1995 season was 55.7 million pounds, and was based on male crab 4 inches and larger (carapace width). This was a 47% decrease from 1994 season. This year's GHL was divided between the Eastern and Western Subdistricts at 25.0 and 30.7 million pounds, respectively. The 1994 GHL mid-point of 105.8 million pounds was divided between the Eastern and Western Subdistricts at 51.6 and 54.2 million pounds respectively.

Tank inspections were conducted by ADF&G staff at St. Paul, King Cove, Akutan, and Dutch Harbor beginning at 12:00 noon on January 14. The majority of vessels received inspections in St. Paul (148 vessels), followed by Dutch Harbor (80 vessels), Akutan (18 vessels) and King Cove (9 vessels). A total 255 vessels, including 19 catcher processors, registered and were given tank inspections. Additional 15 floating processor vessels were registered for on-the-grounds processing. This represents a decrease from 1994 when 273 vessels registered and received tank inspections for the *C. opilio* fishery.

The large number of vessels receiving inspections at St. Paul combined with high winds (which forced a closure of the harbor for approximately ten hours) caused the inspection process in that location to be protracted over several days. Also contributing to the inspection delay were a large number of vessels which were not in compliance with pot buoy tag and 3" tunnel restriction regulations at the time of the tank inspection. These delays prompted some vessels to set gear prior to receiving a tank inspection. Several of these vessels were cited by Fish and Wildlife Protection. While last year's tank inspections in St. Paul took approximately the same length of time as this year, due to south west winds which closed the harbor for several days, a fisherman's strike eliminated pressure on the fleet to be on the fishing grounds at the season opening.

Even though the fishery officially opened at noon on January 15 much of the fleet did not begin setting gear until the following day due to strong northerly winds and extreme sea spray icing. These conditions claimed one vessel and all six members of the crew shortly after the noon opening. Strong sub-freezing winds from the north continued through the first week of February, pushing the ice pack approximately 15 miles south of St. Paul Island by the February 3rd. This was the most southerly progression of ice, for this time period, in the last 39 years according to the NOAH weather station in Anchorage.

As sea ice continued moving south and west across the Bering Sea, vessels fishing in the Western Subdistrict and, to a lessor extent, the northern portions of the Eastern Subdistrict were forced to continually move their gear south. This effectively reduced available fishing area, concentrating vessels in the southern portion of both the Eastern and Western Subdistricts. In the Eastern Subdistrict the CPUE fell from 206 during the first week of the fishery, to 77 by the end of the third week. Similarly, in the west CPUE dropped from 152 to 61 during the same period.

On February 7 a harvest projection based on fishery performance up to that time, indicated the harvest guideline midpoint of 55.7 million pounds would be met or exceeded with 10 additional days of fishing. At this time the long term weather forecast predicted winds to shift from north to southwest and push sea ice north. This was expected to open up additional fishing area in both subdistricts. As a result, a closure of the entire Bering Sea District was announced for noon February 17.

At 33 days, the 1995 fishery was the shortest on record. This years harvest of 75.2 million pounds exceeded the pre-season GHL midpoint of 55.7 million by 35% (Table 21). Total harvest from the Eastern and Western Subdistricts was 39.7 and 35.5 million pounds respectively (Tables 23 and 24). Catches in the Eastern Subdistrict came predominantly from the southwest portion of the subdistrict in areas immediately west of the Pribilof Islands. Catches from the Western Subdistrict were distributed throughout the southern portion of the area between the ice edge and the 100 fathom contour (Table 25). This years closure occurred approximately 2 weeks earlier than the 1994 season closure on March 1, and almost a month earlier than the March 15 closure of the 1993 season.

Overall CPUE in the 1995 fishery was 102 in the Eastern Subdistrict and 142 in the Western Subdistrict. This is a reduction from 149 and 173 crabs per pot pull observed for these same two areas respectively during the 1994 fishery (Tables 23 and 24). Fishery CPUE for the entire Bering Sea District for the 1995 fishery was 117 crabs. This compares to a district average of 160 crabs per pot in 1994 and 175 in 1993 (Tables 21 and 22). Reductions in performance of the 1995 fishery are believed to be a result of reduced stock abundance and a reduction in fishing area available due to the southward encroachment of sea ice.

Crabs averaged 1.2 pounds in this year's fishery compared to 1.3 pounds in 1994, and 1.4 pounds in 1993 (Table 21). Reduced average weights are thought to be caused by a larger percentage of retained crab less than 4 inches in catapace width during the 1995 fishery. Based on size frequency data collected dockside, 17% of legal *C. opilio* crab landed were under 4 inches in carapace width. In 1994 crab less than 4 inches in carapace width made up approximately 12% of the harvest.

Despite a smaller harvest in 1995, approximately 50% less than in 1994, the exvessel value of the 1995 fishery was $186.1 million, a 3.3% decrease from the 1994 fishery value of $192.4 million. This was

due to an exvessel value of $2.43 per pound in 1995, the highest on record. The exvessel price paid to fishermen was $1.30 per pound in 1994 compared to $0.75 per pound in 1993 (Table 26).

C. opilio Stock Status

Data from the 1994 NMFS Bering Sea trawl survey (NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center Processed Report 94-07) indicated the total estimated abundance of large males (over 4 inches carapace width) was 71.6 million crabs. This was a 47% decrease from the 1993 assessment survey. According to survey results 45% of large males were located in the Eastern Subdistrict and sublegal males decreased by 24% since 1993. However, abundance of juvenile males was similar to 1993 estimates. No significant change in estimated abundance of large and small females was apparent between the last two years. While the number of small male crab declined by 24%, total abundance in this size category is still relatively high. It is unknown at this time if these small male crab, located mostly in the northern part of the district, will migrate south and continue to grow. Based on the uncertainty of these crab recruiting into the fishery NMFS forecasts a continued decline in the fishable stock in the near future.

BERING SEA *CHIONOECETES TANNERI*

Historic Background

The first reported landings of *Chionoecetes tanner,i* a deep water Tanner crab species, from the Bering Sea occurred in 1988 after the Alaska Board of Fisheries established a special permit season for deep water Tanner crab during their spring meeting. Two vessels, both catcher processors, fished at depths of 400 to 700 fathoms in the Eastern Subdistrict. Prior to this no market existed for *C. tanneri* and few, if any, were sold commercially. No commercial landings were reported from 1989 through 1992.

In May of 1993, one vessel targeted *C. tanneri* in the Bering Sea, and as commercial interest increased, five additional vessels entered the fishery. Differential pot limits based on vessel size, enacted by the Board of Fisheries in the Spring of 1993, were not applied to vessels fishing for deep water Tanner crab in the Bering Sea until 1994. Also in 1993, the department restricted the harvest to males *C. tanneri* 5 inches or greater in carapace width.

To obtain biological information on *C. tanneri* crab the department implemented 100% observer coverage in 1994, as allowed by the permit provisions in 5 AAC 35.082. Effort and landings decreased during 1994 when Tanner crab pot limits for the Bering Sea were applied to vessels fishing for deep water Tanner crab.

1995 Fishery

A total of eight vessels made 47 landings for a harvest of 966,846 pounds of C. *tanneri* crabs through December 24. The average weight of crab retained in 1995 was 2.1 pounds per crab with an CPUE of 8 crabs per pot. This compares to 1994 when four vessels made 12 landings for a total of 332,454

pounds. In 1994 the average weight of *C. tanneri* landed was 2.0 pounds and the CPUE was 11 crabs per pot (Table 1).

Preliminary information indicates that vessels fished an average of 368 pots and made 55,901 pot pulls during 1995 season. The 1995 exvessel price for *C. tanneri* was $1.40 per pound for a total fishery value in excess of $1.26 million.

During the March 1995 Board of Fisheries meeting, the board determined pot limits established for the Bering Sea Tanner crab fisheries (*C. bairdi* and *C. opilio*) were not intended to apply to deep water Tanner crab species (*C. tanneri* and *C. angulatus*). A news release issued April 28 announced the removal of pot limits effective May 12, 1995. All vessels which fished during 1995 were again required to obtain shellfish observers as 100% coverage was again mandatory.

Limited effort for the 1995 season began in July and remained low throughout the season. The maximum of 3 vessels fished this area at the same time during 1995. Fishing effort was spread between 15 statistical areas, although the majority of retained crabs came from the area below the Pribilof Islands.

Stock Status

No stock assessment surveys are conducted for *C. tanneri* crabs. Consequently no population estimates are available. (Onboard observers have been required on all vessels targeting *C. tanneri*, beginning in 1994.) This measure has provided information on the size, sex and species composition of the non-retained catch.

BERING SEA *CHIONOECETES ANGULATUS*

Introduction

The Bering Sea District of Statistical Area J includes all waters of the Bering Sea north of latitude of Cape Sarichef (54°36') and east of the U.S. - Convention Line of 1867. This district is divided into the Eastern and Western Subdistricts, east and west of 173° West Longitude. The Eastern Subdistrict is further divided into the Norton Sound and General Sections.

Historic Background

Chionoecetes angulatus in the Bering Sea management area have been harvested in the past as a bycatch in the *C. tanneri* fishery. However, fish tickets recorded prior to 1995 do not show a commercial harvest. Vessel operators verbally reported the retention of *C. angulatus* before 1994. In 1994 with 100 percent observer coverage, an incidental catch of this crab species was reported in observer sample data.

1995 Fishery

A total of eight vessels registered for *C. angulatus* in the Bering Sea registration area during the 1995 season. Four vessels made 25 landings for a season harvest of 49,007 pounds. Vessels fished from July through December with the majority of the harvest occurring in July and August. Average weight was 1.2 pounds with a catch rate (CPUE) of 1.3 crab per pot pull. Two vessels made at least one delivery each in which *C. angulatus* was the target species.

Stock Status

There are no population estimates for Bering Sea *Chionoecetes angulatus.* Limited information is being collected by observers required aboard 100% of the vessels participating under terms of the permit required for this fishery.

BERING SEA KING AND TANNER CRAB BUOY IDENTIFICATION TAGS ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction and Background

The Alaska Board of Fisheries 1992 Spring meeting discussed gear limitations for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands king and Tanner crab fisheries. The Board had accepted an agenda change request on March 20, 1991 to hear this issue out of cycle in response to a request submitted by the industry. The request was supported by preliminary Alaska Department of Fish and Game data that indicated high levels of gear deployed in the Bering Sea fisheries were creating conservation and management difficulties.

The Board decided to limit the number of pots that a vessel may use when harvesting Bering Sea king and Tanner crab. New regulations became effective on August 1, 1992. State statute mandates the program be self supporting through buoy identification sales.

On November 10, 1992 a temporary suspension of Buoy ID sticker requirements was issued due to the failure of stickers to adhere to buoys after extended exposure to water and weather. Pot limits, however, remained in effect for the Bering Sea Tanner crab fisheries.

On November 30,1992 National Marine Fisheries Service officially repealed the Bering Sea pot limits because of inconsistencies in the Bering Sea\Aleutian Island king and Tanner crab Federal Management Plan.

At the February 1993 Board of Fisheries meeting, the Board passed differential pot limit regulations based upon overall vessel length. According to the new regulations, vessels in excess of 125 feet in length overall are entitled to the maximum number of pots allowed for a fishery, while vessels 125 feet

and under in length overall are allowed 80% of the number allowed for the larger vessels size class. The actual number of pots allowed is varies for each fishery, (Table 1).

Implementation

According to **AS 16.05.050 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER.**

> The commissioner has,. . . The following powers and duties: (16) . . . to establish and charge fees equal to the cost of services provided by the department . . .

and **AS 16.05.632 IDENTIFICATION OF SHELLFISH POTS OR BUOYS, OR BOTH, USED IN THE TAKING OF KING CRAB AND REQUIREMENTS FOR BUOYS.**

> (a) Registration tags for the identification of shellfish pots or buoys, or both, used in the taking of king crab are required in areas in which the board has regulations limiting the total amount of shellfish pots allowed per vessel. Registration tags shall (6) be issued and renewed for a fee equal to the cost of obtaining the registration tags plus reasonable administrative costs, under procedures determined to be appropriate by the Department of Fish and Game.

Beginning with the 1992/1993 Bristol Bay and Bering Sea crab seasons the Department leased additional office space and employed a Fish and Wildlife Technician III to administer the buoy identification sales program.

In May 1993 the decision was made to use a heavy duty nylon zip tie tag. The tags are manufactured in a different color series for each fishery with an imposed pot limit. These tags have a 1.5 inch by 4 inch flag printed with a unique number. (Figure 1).

Replacement Tags

The Board considered non-replacement of lost pots and double tag requirements and found that the hardship to the industry, by not providing some replacement program, would be unnecessarily burdensome. The Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection anticipated difficulty proving cases if replacement pots were allowed. Special conditions regarding replacement were included in the regulations to accommodate the concerns of Fish and Wildlife Protection, but the Board rejected a double sticker requirement.

The replacement of lost tags is permitted by **5 AAC 34.825.** (f), **5 AAC 34.925.** (j), and **5 AAC 35.525.** (i)

> (4) . . . replacement of lost identification tags is permitted if the vessel operator and three crewmembers, in person, submit to the ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor, a sworn statement or affidavit, describing how the tags were lost and listing the numbers of the lost tags.

An official AFFIDAVIT TO OBTAIN REPLACEMENT BUOY IDENTIFICATION STICKERS, reviewed and approved by Fish and Wildlife Protection, is available in the Dutch Harbor office.

During the interim between the 1994 Bristol Bay red king crab and Bering Sea *C. bairdi* fisheries and again prior to the 1995 *C. opilio* season numerous complaints were received in the Dutch Harbor office regarding problems that vessels delivering to remote areas such as King Cove and St. Paul would have in replacing tags under the current regulations. Most fishermen felt the cost in time and/or money used to transport the permit holder and three crew members to Dutch Harbor to fill out required forms and purchase replacement tags was prohibitive. Some expressed feelings that the present requirement would force them to fish illegally rather than conform to the regulations. To compound problems, after the New Year, many vessels were operated by alternate skippers who inherited the arduous task of determining which tags and how many were missing before they could apply for replacements. Issuing a set of tags coded and colored specifically for the *C. opilio* season was a common suggestion since tags, other than those purchased as replacements, can be obtained through the mail or by an agent. Consequently separate tag sets were manufactured for the 1995 *C. opilio* season. A total of 88 replacement tags were issued during all the 1994/95 Bering Sea crab fisheries. In contrast, a total of 3,510 replacement tags were issued during the 1993/94 Bering Sea Tanner crab fisheries. Reissuing tags for the January *C. opilio* season has averted a repeat of the 1993/94 tag replacement problems.

Vessel Length Verification

All vessels in excess of 125 feet in length overall wishing to obtain the maximum number of buoy identification tags must present an original or notarized copy of valid documentation from the U.S. Coast Guard or certified marine surveyor showing the vessel to be in excess of 125 feet overall. Overall length is defined as the horizontal distance, rounded to the nearest foot, between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stem, excluding bowsprits, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments. This definition of length overall is found in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Shipping, 46 CFR 69.9 and Fishery Conservation and Management, 50 CFR 672.2.

The vessel operator/permit holder is required to show documentation of vessel length the first time buoy tags are purchased and any time a change to the vessel's overall length occurs. The department's Dutch Harbor office has established a qualifying list of vessels where lengths are documented in excess of 125 feet. A total of 112 vessels are presently on the department's qualifying list.

Administration of the Buoy Identification Program

Bering Sea buoy identification tags are issued from ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor and in lesser quantities from the ADF&G office in Kodiak. An administrative fee of $2.00 per tag is currently charged. Tags are issued only if a valid permit card for the specified fishery has been issued to the person purchasing tags. Uniquely numbered tag sets are assigned to vessel ADF&G numbers which guarantee that only one set of tags is issued per vessel.

The department will, when requested, send from the Dutch Harbor office only, buoy tags through the U.S. Mail, priority, insured with a return receipt. Two weeks prior to each season the department

discontinues tag mailings because of the potential logistical problems that can be caused by delayed mail service.

1995/96 Tag Sales

St. Matthew blue king crab tag sales totaled 90 sets and Pribilof red king crab tag sales totaled 130 sets (Table 2). Forty eight of these sales were through the U.S. mail. Included in the total number of tag sales are the Kodiak office sales of 16 tag sets for St. Matthew, and 29 sets for the Pribilof fishery.

Bering Sea *C. Bairdi* tag sales totaled 196 sets (Table 2). Thirty-four of these sales were processed through mail order. Included in the total number of tag sales are the Kodiak office sales of 35 sets.

Bering Sea *C. Opilio* tag sales totaled 238 sets (Table 2). Thirty of these sales were processed through mail order. Included in the total number of tag sales are the Kodiak office sales of 48 sets.

Table 1. Bering Sea, Area Q, Pribilof District historic king crab catch statistics, 1973/74-1995.

Year[a]	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[b]	Harvest[b,c]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[d]	Average Weight[c]	Length[e]	Deadloss[c]
1973/74	8	13	174,420	1,276,533	6,814	26	7.3	N/A	0
1974/75	70	101	908,072	7,107,294	45,518	20	7.8	157.8	0
1975/76	20	54	314,931	2,433,714	16,297	19	7.7	159.1	0
1976/77	47	113	855,505	6,611,084	71,738	12	7.7	158.1	0
1977/78	34	104	807,092	6,456,738	106,983	8	7.9	158.9	159,269
1978/79	58	154	797,364	6,395,512	101,117	8	8.1	159.3	63,140
1979/80	46	115	815,557	5,995,231	83,527	9	7.7	155.9	284,555
1980/81	110	258	1,497,101	10,970,346	167,684	9	7.3	155.7	287,285
1981/82	99	312	1,202,499	9,080,729	176,168	7	7.6	158.2	250,699
1982/83	122	281	587,908	4,405,353	127,728	5	7.5	159.8	51,703
1983/84	126	221	276,364	2,193,395	86,428	3	7.9	159.9	4,562
1984/85	16	25	40,427	306,699	15,147	3	7.6	155.5	0
1985/86	26	49	77,607	532,735	23,483	3	6.9	146.5	7,500
1986/87	16	25	36,988	258,939	15,800	2	7.0	N/A	5,450
1987/88	38	68	95,131	701,337	40,507	2	7.4	152.7	9,910
1988/89	SEASON CLOSED								
1989/90	SEASON CLOSED								
1990/91	SEASON CLOSED								
1991/92[f]	SEASON CLOSED								
1992/93	SEASON CLOSED								
1993[g]	112	135	380,217	2,607,634	35,942	11	6.9	154.4	0

-Continued-

Table 1. (Page 2 of 2)

Year[a]	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[b]	Harvest[b,c]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[d]	Average Weight[c]	Length[e]	Deadloss[c]
1994[g]	104	121	167,520	1,338,953	28,976	6	8.0	162.1	2,929
1995[g]	117	151	107,521	871,173	33,531	3.2	8.1	162.5	15,316
1995[h]	119	152	172,987	1,267,454	34,721	4.8	7.3		46,263

[a]Blue king crab, 1973 - 1988.
[b]Deadloss included.
[c]In pounds.
[d]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[e]Carapace length (millimeters).
[f]10,869 pounds illegal red king crab harvested.
[g]Red king crab.
[h]Blue king crab.

Table 2. Historic Bering Sea, Pribilof District king crab economic performance, 1980/81-1995

	Season		Number of		Number of Pots		Value		Season Length	
Year[a]	GHL[b]	Total[c]	Vessels	Landings	Registered	Pulled	Exvessel	Total[d]	Days	Dates
1980/81	5.0-8.0	10.7	110	258	31,636	167,684	$ .90	$ 9.6	(60)	9/15-11/15
1981/82	5.0-8.0	9.1	99	312	25,408	176,168	$ 1.50	$13.6	(47)	9/10-10/28
1982/83	5.0-8.0	4.4	122	281	34,429	127,728	$ 3.05	$13.4	(15)	9/10-9/25
1983/84	4.0[e]	2.2	126	221	36,439	86,428	$ 3.00	$ 6.6	(10)	9/01-09/11
1984/85	0.5-1.0	0.3	16	25	3,122	15,147	$ 2.50	$ 0.1	(15)	9/01-09/16
19985/86	0.3-0.8	0.5	26	49	6,038	23,483	$ 2.90	$ 1.4	(26)	9/25-10/21
1986/87	0.3-0.8	0.3	16	25	4,376	15,800	$ 4.05	$ 1.2	(55)	9/25-11/20
1987/88	0.3-1.7	0.7	38	68	9,594	40,507	$ 4.00	$ 2.8	(86)	9/25-12/20
1988/89	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1989/90	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1990/91	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1991/92	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1992/93	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1993[f]	3.4	2.6	112	135	4,860	35,942	$ 4.98	$13.0	(6)	9/15-09/21
1994[f]	2.0[e]	1.3	104	121	4,675	28,976	$ 6.00	$ 8.0	(6)	9/15-09/21
1995[f]	2.5[g]	0.9	117	151	5,400[g]	33,531	$ 3.37	$ 2.9	(7)	9/15-09/22
1995[h]	2.5[g]	1.2	119	152	5,400[g]	34,721	$ 2.92	$ 3.6	(7)	9/15-09/22

[a]Blue king crab, 1980 - 1988.
[b]Guideline Harvest Level.
[c]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[d]Millions of dollars.
[e]Set not to exceed.
[f]Red king crab.
[g]Red and blue king crab.
[h]Blue king crab.

Table 3. Pribilof District red king crab catch by statistical area, 1995.

Stat Area	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead-loss[b]
685700	13	3,244	25,393	1,737	7.8	1.9	604
685730	3	216	2,026	605	9.4	.4	84
695631	30	20,775	164,595	4,562	7.9	4.6	983
695700	69	37,366	303,108	14,326	8.1	2.6	11,315
695730	4	1,754	15,517	1,230	8.8	1.4	146
705630	21	10,776	89,438	2,085	8.3	5.2	555
705701	29	12,105	102,667	4,156	8.5	2.9	851
705702	25	14,847	119,721	2,956	8.1	5.0	467
Other[d]	5	6,438	48,708	1,874	7.6	3.4	311
TOTALS	151	107,521	871,173	33,531	8.1	3.2	15,316

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 5 statistical areas.

Table 4. Pribilof District blue king crab catch by statistical area, 1995.

Stat Area	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead-loss[b]
685700	19	27,223	203,702	3,783	7.5	7.2	5,134
685730	4	8,118	59,051	960	7.3	8.5	5,180
695631	27	25,262	189,496	4,854	7.5	5.2	7,169
695700	68	75,032	539,700	14,536	7.2	5.2	23,270
695730	5	5,782	42,451	1,396	7.3	4.1	843
705630	17	3,206	22,407	1,789	7.0	1.8	233
705701	25	11,754	88,536	3,387	7.5	3.5	3,254
705702	26	10,469	76,126	2,335	7.3	4.5	723
Other[d]	5	6,141	45,985	1,679	7.5	3.7	457
TOTALS	1,152	172,987	1,267,454	34,721	7.3	5.0	46,263

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 4 statistical areas.

Table 5. Historic blue king crab catch in the St. Matthew portion of statistical Area Q, 1977-1995.

Season	Number of			Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[c]	Percent Recruits	Average		Deadloss[b]
	Vessels	Landings	Crab[a]					Weight[b]	Length[d]	
1977	10	24	281,665	1,202,066	17,370	16	7.0	4.3	130.4	129,148
1978	22	70	436,126	1,984,251	43,754	9	N/A	4.5	132.2	116,037
1979	18	25	52,966	210,819	9,877	5	80.8	4.0	128.8	128.8
1980					Confidential					
1981	31	119	1,045,619	4,627,761	58,550	18	N/A	4.4	N/A	53,355
1982	96	269	1,935,886	8,844,789	165,618	12	19.6	4.6	135.1	142,973
1983	164	235	1,931,990	9,454,323	133,944	14	26.7	4.8	137.2	828,994
1984	90	169	841,017	3,764,592	73,320	11	34.0	4.5	135.5	31,983
1985	79	103	484,836	2,427,110	51,606	9	9.0	5.0	139.0	2,613
1986	38	43	219,548	1,003,162	22,093	10	10.0	4.6	134.3	32,560
1987	61	62	234,521	1,075,179	28,440	8	5.0	4.6	134.13	400
1988	46	46	302,053	1,325,185	10,160	13	65.0	4.4	133.29	22,358
1989	69	69	247,641	1,166,258	30,853	8	9.0	4.7	134.55	3,754
1990	31	38	391,405	1,725,349	26,264	15	4.0	4.4	134.28	17,416
1991	68	69	726,519	3,372,066	37,104	20	12.0	4.6	134.1	216,459
1992	174	179	544,956	2,474,080	56,630	10	9.0	4.6	134.1	0
1993	92	136	629,874	2,999,921	58,647	11	6.0	4.8	135.4	0
1994	87	133	827,015	3,764,262	60,860	13	60.0	4.6	133.3	46,699
1995	90	111	666,905	3,166,093	48,560	13		4.8	135.0	90,191

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace length (millimeters).

Table 6. Economic performance of the blue king crab fishery in the St. Matthew Island section of the Northern district of the Bering Sea, 1981-1995.

Year	GHL[a, b]	Season Total	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Pots Registered	Number of Pots Pulled	Value Exvessel	Value Total	Season Length (Days)	Season Length Dates
1981	1.5-3.0	4.6	31	119	2,960	58,550	$ 0.90	$ 4.1	(38)	7/15-8/21
1982	5.6	8.7	96	269	21,894	165,618	$ 2.00	$ 17.4	(15)	8/01-8/16
1983	8.0	8.6	164	235	38,000	133,944	$ 3.00	$ 25.8	(17)	8/20-9/06
1984	2.0-4.0	3.7	90	169	14,800	73,320	$ 1.75	$ 6.5	(7)	9/01-9/08
1985	0.9-1.9	2.4	79	103	13,000	51,606	$ 1.60	$ 3.8	(5)	9/01-9/06
1986	0.2-0.5	1.0	38	43	5,600	22,093	$ 3.20	$ 3.2	(5)	9/01-9/06
1987	0.6-1.3	1.1	61	62	9,370	28,440	$ 2.85	$ 3.1	(4)	9/01-9/05
1988	0.7-1.5	1.3	46	46	7,780	10,160	$ 3.10	$ 4.0	(4)	9/01-9/05
1989	1.7	1.2	69	69	11,983	30,853	$ 2.90	$ 3.5	(2.5)	9/01-9/04
1990	1.9	1.7	31	38	6,000	26,264	$ 3.35	$ 5.7	(6)	9/01-9/07
1991	3.2	3.2	68	69	13,100	37,104	$ 2.80	$ 9.0	(4)	9/16-9/20
1992	3.1	2.5	174	179	17,400	56,630	$ 3.00	$ 7.4	(2.5)	9/04-9/07
1993	4.4	3.0	92	136	5,895	58,647	$ 3.23	$ 9.7	(6)	9/15-9/21
1994	3.0	3.7	87	133	5,685	60,860	$ 4.00	$ 15.0	(7)	9/15-9/22
1995	2.4	3.1	90	111	5,970	48,560	$ 2.32	$ 7.1	(5)	9/15-9/20

[a]Guideline Harvest Level.
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.

Table 7. Comparitive mid-point estimates, emergency order projections and actual harvests for the St. Matthew blue king crab fishery, 1983-1995.

Year	Guideline Harvest Levels[a]	GHL Mid-Point[a]	Actual Harvest	Projected Harvest
1983	8.0	-	9.5	8.0
1984	2.0 - 4.0	3.00	3.8	4.0
1985	0.9 - 1.9	1.40	2.4	2.0
1986	0.2 - 0.5	0.30	1.0	1.0
1987	0.6 - 1.3	.95	1.1	1.3
1988	0.7 - 1.5	-	1.3	1.5
1989	1.7	-	1.2	1.7
1990	1.9	-	1.7	1.9
1991	3.2	-	3.4	3.2
1992	3.1	-	2.5	3.1
1993	4.4	-	3.0	4.4
1994	3.0	-	3.8	3.0
1995	2.4	-	3.2	2.4

[a]Millions of pounds.
[b]Deadloss included.

Table 8. Blue king crab catch by statistical area for the St. Matthew Island section of the Northern district of the Bering Sea, 1995.

Stat Area	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead-loss[b]
726001	80	422,860	2,025,814	30,926	4.8	14	57,673
726002	12	61,962	293,773	5,359	4.7	12	8,998
736001	35	160,463	741,395	11,109	4.6	14	22,103
Other[d]	5	21,620	105,111	1,166	4.8	18	1,417
Total	111	666,905	3,166,093	48,560	4.8	13	90,191

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 3 statistical areas.

Table 9. St. Matthew Blue King crab comparative average catches of catcher-processor vs. catcher-only vessels, 1990-1995.

	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990
Number of Catcher-Processor Vessels	Confidential	6	3	8	9	7
Number of Catcher-only Vessels	89	87	89	166	59	24
Pounds of Catcher-Processor Harvest,	Confidential	352,069	165,625	191,801	740,687	447,320
Percent of Catcher-Processor Harvest	Confidential	10.7	5.5	7.7	22.0	25.9
Average Catcher-Processor Harvest	Confidential	58,678	55,208	23,975	82,298	63,903
Average Catcher-Only Harvest	34,964	39,221	31,846	13,749	44,600	53,251
Catcher-Processor Average CPUE	Confidential	14	14	16	26	15
Catcher-Only Average CPUE	14	14	11	9	18	15
Total Harvest	3,166,093	3,764,262	2,999,921	2,474,080	3,372,066	1,725,349
Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Processor	Confidential	926	811	327	682	983
Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Only	541	636	632	325	525	807
Catcher-Processor Harvest Range	Confidential	37,947-104,451	45,060-63,914	5,573-51,943	41,812-129,038	27,403-111,507

Table 10. Northern District, Area Q, king crab harvest composition by fishing season, 1977-1995.

Season	Date Opened	Date Closed	Species	Harvest[a]	Minimum Size[b]	Price per Pound
1977	June 7	Aug. 16	Blue	1,202,066	5 1/2	$ 1.00
			Red	543,041	5	
1978	July 15	Sept. 3	Blue	1,984,251	5 1/2	$ 0.95
	July 15	Aug. 16	Red	2,007,910	4 3/4	
1979	July 15	Aug. 24	Blue	210,819	5 1/2	$ 0.70
	July 15	Aug. 16	Red	3,024,228	4 3/4	
1980	July 15	Sept. 3	Blue			$ 0.75
	July 15	July 31	Red[c]	353,683	4 3/4	
1981	July 15	Aug. 21	Blue	4,627,761	5 1/2	$ 0.90
	July 15	Sept. 3	Red[c]	63,983	4 3/4	
1982	Aug. 1	Aug. 16	Blue	8,844,789	5 1/2	$ 2.00
	Aug. 1	Aug. 16	Red[c]	3,690	4 3/4	$ 2.00
	May 1	Aug. 1	Brown	193,507	5 1/2	$ 2.00
1983[d]	Aug. 20	Sept. 6	Blue	9,506,880[e]	5 1/2	$ 3.00
	Aug. 20	Sept. 6	Red	1,635	4 3/4	$ 2.50
	May 1	Aug. 1	Brown		5 1/2	-
1984	Aug. 1	Sept. 8	Blue	3,764,592	5 1/2	$ 1.75
	Aug. 1	Sept. 8	Red[c]	-	4 3/4	-
	May 1	Dec. 31	Brown[d]	-	5 1/2	-
1985	Sept. 1	Sept. 6	Blue	2,427,110	5 1/2	$ 1.60
	Aug. 1	Sept. 6	NO CATCH REPORTED		4 3/4	-
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	NO CATCH REPORTED		5 1/2	-
1986	Sept. 1	Sept. 6	Blue	1,003,162	5 1/2	$ 3.20
	Aug. 1	Sept. 6	NO CATCH REPORTED		4 3/4	-
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	NO CATCH REPORTED		5 1/2	-
1987	Sept. 1	Sept. 5	Blue	1,075,179	5 1/2	$ 2.85
	Aug. 1	Sept. 5	NO CATCH REPORTED		4 3/4	-
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Brown	424,394	5 1/2	$ 2.60
1988	Sept. 1	Sept. 5	Blue	1,325,185	5 1/2	$ 3.10
	Aug. 1	Sept. 5	NO CATCH REPORTED		4 3/4	
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Brown	160,441	5 1/2	$ 3.10
1989	Sept. 1	Sept. 4	Blue	1,166,258	5 1/2	$ 2.90
			Blue	0[f]	5 1/2	NA
	Aug. 1	Sept. 4	Red[c]	4,518	4 3/4	NA
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Brown	4,407	5 1/2	NA
1990	Sept. 1	Sept. 7	Blue	1,725,349	5 1/2	$ 3.35
1991	Sept. 16	Sept. 20	Blue	3,372,066	5 1/2	$ 2.80
1992	Sept. 4	Sept. 7	Blue	2,474,080	5 1/2	$ 3.00
1993	Sept. 15	Sept. 21	Blue	2,999,921	5 1/2	$ 3.23
1994	Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Blue	3,764,262	5 1/2	$ 4.00
1995	Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Blue	3,166,093	5 1/2	$ 2.32

[a]In pounds, deadloss included.
[b]Carapace width in (inches).
[c]Does not include Norton Sound.
[d]Some of Northern District open until September 20.
[e]St. Lawrence Island harvest included, 1977 - 1983.
[f]Combined with red king crab to total 4,518 pounds.

Table 11. Bristol Bay, Area T of the Bering Sea, historic red king crab catch statistics, 1966-1995.

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	Length[c]	CPUE[d]	% Old Shell	Deadloss[b]
1966	9	15	140,554	997,321	2,720	7.1		52		
1967	20	61	397,307	3,102,443	10,621	7.8		37		
1968	59	261	1,278,592	8,686,546	47,496	6.8		27		
1969	65	377	1,749,022	10,403,283	98,426	5.9		18		
1970	51	309	1,682,591	8,559,178	96,658	5.1		17		
1971	52	394	2,404,681	12,955,776	118,522	5.4		20		
1972	64	611	3,994,356	21,744,924	205,045	5.4		20		
1973	67	441	4,825,963	26,913,636	194,095	5.6		25		N/A
1974	104	605	7,710,317	42,266,274	212,915	5.5		36		N/A
1975	102	592	8,745,294	51,326,259	205,096	5.7		43		1,639,483
1976	141	984	10,603,367	63,919,728	321,010	6.0	148	33	27.4	875,327
1977	130	1,020	11,733,101	69,967,868	451,273	5.9	148	26	13.0	730,279
1978	162	926	14,745,709	87,618,320	406,165	5.8	147	36	6.9	1,273,037
1979	236	889	16,808,605	107,828,057	315,226	6.4	152	53	10.4	3,555,891
1980	236	1,251	20,845,350	129,948,463	567,292	6.2	151	37	11.0	1,858,668
1981	177	1,026	5,307,947	33,591,368	542,250	6.3	151	10	47.4	711,289
1982	90	255	541,006	3,001,210	141,656	5.6	145	4	24.6	95,834
1983				NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY						
1984	89	137	794,040	4,182,406	112,556	5.2	142	7	26.5	35,601
1985	128	130	796,181	4,174,953	85,003	5.5	142	9	25.8	6,436
1986	159	230	2,099,576	11,393,934	178,370	5.4	142	12	25.5	284,127
1987	236	311	2,122,402	12,289,067	220,871	5.8	145	9	19.0	120,388
1988	200	201	1,236,131	7,387,795	153,004	6.0	147	8	15.1	23,537
1989	211	287	1,684,706	10,264,791	208,684	6.1	148	8	17.7	81,334
1990	240	331	3,120,326	20,362,342	262,131	6.5	152	12	14.7	116,527
1991[e]	302	324	2,630,446	17,177,894	227,555	6.5	152	12	12.1	119,670
1992[e]	281	289	1,196,958	8,043,018	205,940	6.7	153	6	22.3	9,000
1993[e]	292	361	2,261,287	14,628,639	253,794	6.5	152	9	15.2	133,442
1994				NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY						
1995				NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY						

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Carapace length (millimeters).
[d]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[e]Includes Test Fishery.

Table 12. Historic Bristol Bay red king crab economic performance.

Year	GHL[a]	Season Total[b]	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Pots Registered	Number of Pots Pulled	Value Exvessel	Value Total[c]	Season Length Days	Season Length Dates
1980	70 - 120	128.1	236	1,251	78,352	567,292	$ 0.90	$115.3	(40)	09/10-10/20
1981	70 - 100	33.6	177	1,026	75,756	542,250	$ 1.50	$ 49.	(91)	09/10-12/15
1982	10 - 20[d]	2.9	90	255	36,166	141,656	$ 3.05	$ 8.	(30)	09/10-10/10
1983	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1984	2.5 -6.0	4.1	89	137	21,762	112,556	$ 2.60	$ 10.	(15)	10/01-10/16
1985	3.0 -5.0	4.2	128	130	30,117	85,003	$ 2.90	$ 12.	(8)	09/25-10/02
1986	6.0-13.0	11.1	159	230	32,468	178,370	$ 4.05	$ 45.	(13)	09/25-10/07
1987	8.5-17.7	12.2	236	311	63,000	220,871	$ 4.00	$ 48.	(12)	09/25-10/06
1988	7.5	7.4	200	201	50,099	153,004	$ 5.10	$ 37.	(8)	09/25-10/02
1989	16.5	10.2	211	287	55,000	208,684	$ 5.00	$ 50.	(12)	09/25-10/06
1990	17.1	20.2	240	331	69,906	262,131	$ 5.00	$101.2	(12)	11/01-11/13
1991	18.0	17.1[e]	302	324	89,068	227,555	$ 3.00	$ 51.	(7)	11/01-11-08
1992	10.3	8.0[e]	281	289	68,189	205,940	$ 5.00	$ 40.	(7)	11/01-11/08
1993	16.8	14.6[e]	292	361	58,881	253,794	$ 3.80	$ 55.	(9)	11/01-11/10
1994	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1995	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									

[a]Guideline Harvest Level (millions of pounds).
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Inseason revision to 4.7 million pounds.
[e]Includes test fishery.

Table 13. Bristol Bay red king crab harvest composition by fishing season.

Season	Date Opened-Closed	Harvest[a]	Percent Recruit[b]	Percent Postrecruit[b]	Size Limit[c]	Price Per Pound
1973	06/15-09/09	26.9	63	37	6¼	$0.84
1974	07/29-10/12	42.2	60	40	6¼	$0.38
1975	08/01-11/16	51.3	21	79	6¼[d]	$0.38
1976	08/15-12/07	63.9	56	44	6½	$0.58
1977	09/15-12/08	70.0	67	33	6½	$1.11
1978	09/10-10/23	87.6	75	25	6½	$1.23
1979	09/15-10/14	107.8	47	53	6½	$1.01
1980	09/10-10/20	129.9	44	56	6½	$0.90
1981	09/10-10/20	33.6	-	-	6½	-
	10/25-12/15	1.5	14	86	7	$1.50
1982	09/10-10/10	3.0	68	32	6½	$3.05
1983	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY					
1984	10/01-10/16	4.2	59	41	6½	$2.60
1985	09/25-10/02	4.2	66	34	6½	$2.90
1986	09/25-10/07	11.4	65	35	6½	$4.05
1987	09/25-10/06	12.3	77	23	6½	$4.00
1988	09/25-10/02	7.4	59	41	6½	$5.10
1989	09/25-10/06	10.3	58	42	6½	$5.00
1990	11/01-11/13	20.4	49	51	6½	$5.00
1991	11/01-11/08	17.2	44	56	6½	$3.00
1992	11/01-11/08	8.0	33	67	6½	$5.00
1993	11/01-11/10	14.6	33	67	6½	$3.80
1994	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY					
1995	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY					

[a]Deadloss included, millions of pounds.
[b]Recruits figured at 149 mm - all previous years, 155 mm.
[c]Minimum carapace width in inches.
[d]6½ inches after 11/01.

Table 14. Historic brown king crab catch in the Pribilof District of the Bering Sea, Area Q.

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[c]	Average Weight[b]	Average Length[d]	Deadloss[b]
1982/83[e]	10	19	15,330	69,970	5,252	3	4.6	151.0	570
1981/82				Confidential					
1982/83[e]	10	19	15,330	69,970	5,252	3	4.6	151.0	570
1983/84[f]	50	115	253,162	856,475	26,035	10	3.4	127.0	20,041
1984[g]			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1985				Confidential					
1986				Confidential					
1987				Confidential					
1988				Confidential					
1989				Confidential					
1990			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1991				Confidential					
1992				Confidential					
1993	5	15	17,643	67,458	15,395	1	3.8	N/A	0
1994	3	5	21,477	88,985	1,845	12	4.1	N/A	730
1995	7	22	82,456	341,700	9,481	9	4.1	N/A	716

[a]Deadloss included
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace length (millimeters).
[e]Six and one-half inch size limit.
[f]Five and one-half inch size limit.
[g]Permit fishery July through December.

Table 15. Historic brown king crab catch in the Northern District of the Bering Sea, Area Q.

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[c]	Average Weight[b]	Average Length[d]	Deadloss[b]
1982/83	22	30	51,714	193,507	7,825	6	3.7	138.0	957
1983/84			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1985			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1986			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1987	11	29	101,618	424,394	14,525	7	4.2	142.0	11,750
1988	11	23	36,270	160,441	11,672	3	4.4	150.0	14,000
1989			Confidential						
1990			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1991			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1992			Confidential						
1993			NO REPORTED LANDINGS						
1994			Confidential						
1995	4	4	245	1,200	383	1	4.9	N/A	0

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace length (millimeters).

Table 16. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* catch statistics by season, 1968-1995.

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	CPUE[c]	Average Weight[b]	Width[d]	% New Shell	Deadloss[b]
1968	NA	7	6,400	17,900	1,400	5	2.8	NA	NA	NA
1969	NA	131	353,300	1,008,900	29,800	12	2.9	NA	NA	NA
1970	NA	66	482,300	1,014,700	16,400	29	2.1	NA	NA	NA
1971	NA	22	61,300	166,100	7,300	8	2.7	NA	NA	NA
1972	NA	14	42,061	107,761	4,260	10	2.6	NA	NA	NA
1973	NA	44	93,595	231,668	15,730	6	2.5	NA	NA	NA
1974	NA	69	2,531,825	5,044,197	22,014	115	2.0	NA	NA	NA
1974/75	28	80	2,773,770	7,028,378	38,462	72	2.5	NA	NA	NA
1975/76	66	304	8,956,036	22,358,107	141,206	63	2.5	NA	NA	NA
1976/77	83	541	20,251,508	51,455,221	297,471	68	2.5	NA	NA	NA
1977/78	120	861	26,350,688	66,648,954	516,350	51	2.5	152.8	88.0	218,099
1978/79	144	817	16,726,518	42,547,174	402,697	42	2.5	152.7	95.0	76,000
1979/80	152	804	14,685,611	36,614,315	488,434	30	2.5	151.4	90.0	56,446
1981	165	761	11,845,958	29,630,492	559,626	21	2.5	149.4	86.6	101,594
1982	125	791	4,830,980	11,008,779	490,099	10	2.3	148.8	85.4	138,159
1983	108	448	2,286,756	5,273,881	282,006	8	2.3	148.8	70.5	60,029
1984	41	134	516,877	1,208,223	61,357	8	2.3	146.5	40.0	5,025
1985	44	166	1,283,474	3,151,498	104,707	12	2.4	150.0	65.0	14,096
1986	SEASON CLOSED									
1987	SEASON CLOSED									
1988	98	248	897,059	2,210,394	112,334	8	2.5	143.5	70.2	10,724
1989	109	359	2,907,021	7,012,965	184,892	16	2.4	149.4	80.8	34,664
1990	179	1,032	10,717,924	24,549,299	711,137	15	2.3	148.1	96.5	87,475
1990/91	255	1,756	16,608,625	40,081,555	883,391	19	2.4	149.7	95.3	210,769
1991/92	285	2,339	12,924,034	31,796,381	1,244,633	10	2.5	150.4	93.2	279,741
1992/93	294	2,084	15,265,880	35,130,866	1,200,885	13	2.3	148.0	90.5	343,955
1993/94	296	862	7,235,498	16,891,320	576,464	13	2.3	150.7	93.9	258,389
1994	183	349	3,351,639	7,766,886	249,536	13	2.3	150.0	92.5	132,780
1995	196	256	1,877,303	4,233,061	247,853	8	2.3			44,508

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace width (millimeters).

Table 17. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* catch by subdistrict, 1974/75-1995.

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1974/75	Southeastern		72	2,526,687	6,504,984	32,275	2.6	78	0
	Pribilofs		8	247,083	523,394	3,923	2.1	63	0
	TOTAL	28	80	2,773,770	7,028,378	38,462	2.5	72	0
1975/76	Southeastern		230	6,682,232	16,643,194	106,445	2.5	63	0
	Pribilofs		74	2,273,804	5,714,913	34,761	2.5	65	0
	TOTAL	66	304	8,956,036	22,358,107	141,206	2.5	63	0
1976/77	Southeastern		437	16,089,057	41,007,736	233,667	2.6	69	0
	Pribilofs		104	4,162,451	10,447,485	63,804	2.5	65	0
	TOTAL	83	541	20,251,508	51,455,221	297,471	2.5	68	0
1977/78	Southeastern		706	21,055,527	53,278,012	408,437	2.5	52	0
	Pribilofs		155	5,210,170	13,152,843	107,913	2.5	48	0
	TOTAL	120	861	26,350,688	66,648,954	516,350	2.5	51	218,099
1978/79	Southeastern		758	15,601,891	39,694,205	356,594	2.5	44	75,400
	Pribilofs		59	1,124,627	2,852,969	46,103	2.5	24	600
		144	817	16,726,518	42,547,174	402,697	2.5	42	76,000

-Continued-

Table 17. (page 2 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1979/80	Southeastern		789	14,329,889	35,724,003	476,410	2.5	30	56,446
	Pribilofs		15	355,722	890,312	12,024	2.5	30	0
	TOTAL	152	804	14,685,611	36,614,315	488,434	2.5	30	56,446
1981	Southeastern		674	10,532,007	26,684,956	496,751	2.5	21	97,398
	Pribilofs		87	1,313,951	2,945,536	62,875	2.5	21	4,196
	TOTAL	165	761	11,845,958	29,630,492	559,626	2.5	21	101,594
1982	Southeastern		539	3,825,433	8,812,302	322,634	2.3	12	69,829
	Pribilofs		252	1,005,547	2,196,477	167,465	2.2	6	68,330
	TOTAL	125	791	4,830,980	11,008,779	490,099	2.3	10	138,159
1983	Northern		10	29,478	48,454	5,950	1.7	5	167
	Southeastern		287	1,984,673	4,633,354	192,538	2.3	10	52,879
	Pribilofs		151	272,505	592,073	83,528	2.2	3	6,983
	TOTAL	108	448	2,286,756	5,273,881	282,006	2.3	8	60,029
1984	Southeastern		91	470,181	1,099,142	44,546	2.3	11	4,688
	Pribilofs		43	46,759	109,081	16,811	2.3	3	337
	TOTAL	41	134	516,877	1,208,223	61,357	2.3	8	5,025

-Continued-

Table 17. (page 3 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1985	Southeastern	38	143	1,278,109	3,139,041	96,976	2.4	13	14,096
	Pribilofs	15	23	5,365	12,457	7,731	2.3	1	0
	TOTAL	44	166	1,283,474	3,151,3498	104,707	2.4	12	14,096
1986	SEASON CLOSED								
1987	SEASON CLOSED								
1988	Eastern	98	248	897,059	2,210,394	112,334	2.5	8	10,724
	Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	98	248	897,059	2,210,394	112,334	2.5	8	10,724
1989	Eastern	109	359	2,907,021	7,012,965	184,892	2.4	16	34,664
	Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	109	359	2,907,021	7,012,965	184,892	2.4	16	34,664
1990	Eastern		1,105	10,708,996	24,529,165	701,924	2.3	15	87,475
	Western		17	8,928	20,134	9,213	2.3	<1	0
	TOTAL	179	1,032	10,717,924	24,549,299	711,137	2.3	15	87,475

-Continued-

Table 17. (page 4 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1990/91	Eastern	255	1,756	16,608,625	40,081,555	883,391	2.4	19	210,769
	Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	255	1,756	16,608,625	40,081,555	883,391	2.4	19	210,769
1991/92	Eastern	285	2,339	12,924,034	31,796,381	1,244,633	2.5	10	279,741
1992/93	Eastern	293	2,011	15,074,084	34,821,043	1,150,834	2.3	13	340,955
	Western	70	96	191,796	309,823	50,051	1.6	4	3,000
	TOTAL	294	2,084	15,265,880	35,130,866	1,200,885	2.3	13	343,955
1993/94	East of 168°[d]	283	347	1,696,430	4,114,949	250,501	2.4	7	103,715
	163° to 173°[e]	261	515	5,539,068	12,776,371	325,963	2.3	17	154,674
	TOTAL	296	862	7,235,498	16,891,320	576,464	2.3	13	258,389
1994	163° to 173°	183	349	3,351,639	7,766,886	249,536	2.3	13	132,780
1995	163° to 173°	196	256	1,877,303	4,233,061	247,853	2.3	8	44,508

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]November 1 - November 10, 1993.
[e]November 20, 1993 - January 1, 1994.

Table 18. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab seasons, 1968-1995.

Season	Date Opened	Date Closed	Number of Vessels	Number of Harvest[a,b]	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Price/ Pound
1968[d]			NA	17.9	2.8	5	NA
1969[d]			NA	1,008.9	2.9	12	NA
1970[d]			NA	1,014.7	2.1	29	NA
1971[d]			NA	166.1	2.7	8	NA
1972[d]			NA	108.8	2.6	10	NA
1973[d]			NA	231.7	2.5	6	NA
1974[d]			NA	5,044.2	2.0	115	NA
1974/75	07-29	06-15	28	7,027.4	2.5	72	$ 0.20
1975/76	08-01	07-15	66	22,358.1	2.5	63	$ 0.19
1976/77	08-01	07-07	83	51,455.2	2.5	68	$ 0.30
1977/78	09-15	06-15	120	66,649.0	2.5	51	$ 0.38
1978/79	11-10	05-24	144	42,547.2	2.5	42	$ 0.52
1979/80	11-10	05-11	152	36,614.3	2.5	30	$ 0.52
1981	01-15	04-15	165	29,630.5	2.5	21	$ 0.58
1982	02-15	06-15	125	11,008.8	2.3	10	$ 1.06
1983[e]	02-15	05-22	108	5,273.9	2.3	8	$ 1.20
		06-15					
1984	02-15	06-15	41	1,208.2	2.3	8	$ 0.95
1985	01-15	06-15	44	3,151.5	2.4	12	$ 1.40
1986			SEASON CLOSED				
1987			SEASON CLOSED				
1988	01-15	04-20	98	2,210.4	2.5	8	$ 2.17
1989	01-15	05-07	109	7,013.0	2.4	16	$ 2.90
1990	01-15	04-09[f]					
		04-24[g]	179	24,549.3	2.3	15	$ 1.85
1990/91	11-20	03-25	255	40,081.6	2.4	19	$ 1.12
1991/92	11-15	03-31	285	31,796.4	2.5	10	$ 1.50
1992/93	11-15	03-31	294	35,130.9	2.3	13	$ 1.69
1993/94	11-01	11-10[h]	283	4,114.9	2.4	7	$ 1.90
	11-20	01-01[i]	261	12,776.4	2.3	17	$ 1.90
1994	11-01	11-21[i]	183	7,766.9	2.3	13	$ 3.75
1995	11-01	11-16[i]	196	4,233.1	2.3	8	$ 2.80

[a]Figures given in thousands - deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Incidental to the king crab fishery.
[e]Partial Bering Sea closure.
[f]East of 165° West longitude.
[g]West of 165° West longitude.
[h]East of 168° West longitude.
[i]163° -173° West longitude.

Table 19. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab economic performance, 1979/80-1995.

		Season	Number of		Number of Pots		Value		Season Length	
Year	GHL[a,b]	Total[b]	Vessels	Landings	Registered	Pulled	Exvessel	Total[c]	(Days)	Dates
1979/80	28-36	36.5	152	804	40,273	488,434	$ 0.52	$ 19.0	(189)	11/01-05/14
1981	28-36	29.6	165	761	42,910	559,626	$ 0.58	$ 17.2	(88)	01/15-04/18
1982	12-16	10.9	125	791	36,396	490,099	$ 1.06	$ 11.5	(118)	02/15-06/15
1983	5.6	5.2	108	448	15,255	282,006	$ 1.20	$ 6.2	(118)	02/15-06/15
1984	7.1	1.2	41	134	9,851	61,357	$ 0.95	$ 1.1	(118)	02/15-06/15
1985	3.0	3.1	44	166	15,325	104,707	$ 1.40	$ 4.3	(149)	01/15-06/15
1986	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1987	NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY									
1988	5.6	2.2	98	248	38,765	112,334	$ 2.17	$ 4.8	(93)	01/15-04/20
1989	13.5	7.0	109	359	43,607	184,892	$ 2.90	$ 20.3	(110)	01/15-05/07
1990[d]	29.5	24.5	179	1,032	46,440	711,137	$ 1.85	$ 45.3	(89)	01/15-04/24
1990/91	42.8	39.7	255	1,756	75,356	883,391	$ 1.12	$ 44.5	(126)	11/20-03/25
1991/92	32.8	31.5	285	2,339	85,401	1,244,633	$ 1.50	$ 47.3	(137)	11/15-03/31
1992/93	39.2	35.1	294	2,084	71,481	1,200,885	$ 1.69	$ 58.8	(137)	11/15-03/31
1993[e]	10.7	4.1	283	347	62,302	250,501	$ 1.90	$ 7.6	(10)	11/01-11/10
1993/94[f]	9.1	12.8	261	515	53,737	325,963	$ 1.90	$ 24.0	(42)	11/20-01/01
1994[f]	7.5	7.6	183	349	38,670	249,536	$ 3.75	$ 28.5	(20)	11/01-11/21
1995	5.5	4.2	196	256	40,827	247,853	$ 2.80	$ 11.7	(15)	11/01-11/16

[a]Guideline Harvest Level
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Winter fishery.
[e]East of 168° West longitude.

Table 20. Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab catch by statistical area, 1995.

Area	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead-loss[b]
635504	17	76,795	133,014	4,345	1.7	18	905
635530	39	164,798	384,092	20,487	2.3	8	3,554
635600	63	311661	722,888	38,017	2.3	8	7,493
635700	5	25,333	56,839	3,007	2.2	8	712
645530	40	165,520	383,239	24,799	2.3	7	4,833
645600	35	158,488	361,674	21,026	2.3	8	5,156
645630	22	102,868	235,070	12,959	2.3	8	2,964
655500	11	33,819	78,262	5,904	2.3	6	1,451
655530	6	11,571	26,738	1,484	2.3	8	242
655600	20	50,800	117,170	7,357	2.3	7	990
655630	4	9,016	19,675	1,656	2.2	5	102
665600	7	19,253	43,267	3664	2.3	5	473
665630	3	13,608	28,464	2,350	2.0	6	61
675600	10	73,179	162,732	9,021	2.2	8	1,963
695600	4	1,037	2,293	630	2.2	2	37
695631	6	9,358	21,152	2,640	2.3	4	237
705600	7	11,896	25,927	2,502	2.2	5	270
705630	31	92,637	206,350	17,620	2.2	5	2,062
705701	4	7,007	15,310	926	2.2	8	42
Other[d]	13	59,630	132,014	7,801	2.2	8	635
TOTAL	256	1,877,303	4,233,061	247,853	2.3	8	44,508

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 9 statistical areas.

Table 21. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch statistics by season, 1977/78-1995.

Year	Number of			Pots			% New	Average		Dead-
	Vessels	Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pulled	CPUE[c]	Shell	Weight[c]	Width[d]	loss[b]
1977/78	15	38	1,267,546	1,716,124	13,247	96	NA	1.4	NA	0
1978/79	102	490	22,118,498	32,187,039	190,746	116	83.0	1.5	113.1	759,137
1979/80	134	597	25,286,777	39,572,668	255,102	99	90.0	1.6	118.1	228,345
1981	153	867	34,415,322	52,750,034	435,742	79	79.2	1.5	117.0	2,269,979
1982	122	803	24,089,562	29,355,374	469,091	51	78.0	1.2	109.4	1,092,655
1983	109	461	23,853,647	26,128,410	287,127	83	NA	1.1	NA	1,324,466
1984[e]	52	367	24,009,935	26,813,074	173,591	138	78.0	1.1	105.4	798,795
1985[f]	75	718	52,903,246	65,998,875	372,045	142	80.0	1.3	108.0	1,064,184
1986[g]	88	992	76,499,123	97,984,539	543,744	141	73.7	1.3	109.5	1,378,533
1987	103	1,038	81,307,659	101,903,388	616,113	132	84.0	1.2	108.9	978,449
1988	171	1,285	105,716,337	134,030,185	776,907	136	71.2[h]	1.3	109.5	3,260,020
1989	168	1,341	112,618,881	149,455,848	663,442	170	85.2[h]	1.3	111.2	1,844,682
1990	189	1,565	128,977,638	161,821,350	911,613	141	97.4[h]	1.3	109.1	1,796,664
1991	220	2,788	265,123,960	328,647,269	1,391,583	191	95.1	1.2	110.2	3,464,036
1992	250	2,763	227,376,582	315,302,034	1,281,796	177	97.6	1.4	111.7	2,325,852
1993	254	1,836	169,558,842	230,787,000	971,046	175	92.5	1.4	111.6	1,573,952
1994	273	1,293	114,779,014	149,775,765	716,524	160	92.5	1.3	111.6	1,799,323
1995	253	869	60,611,411	75,252,677	506,802	117	NA	1.2	NA	1,287,169

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace width (millimeters).
[e]North of 58° reopened until 12/31.
[f]West of 164° opened through 12/31.
[g]Open only west of 164° West longitude.
[h]Eastern and Western Districts combined.

Table 22. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* Tanner crab seasons, 1977/78-1995.

Season	Date Opened	Date Closed	Number of Vessels	Harvest[a,b]	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Price/ Pound
1977/78	09-15-77	09-23-78	15	1,716,124	1.4	96	$ 0.38
1978/79	11-01-78	09-03-79	102	32,187,039	1.5	116	$ 0.30
1979/80	11-01-79	08-15-80	134	39,572,668	1.6	99	$ 0.21
		09-03-80[d]					
1981	01-15-81	08-01-81	153	52,750,034	1.5	79	$ 0.26
		09-01-81[d]					
1982	02-15-82	08-01-82	122	29,355,374	1.2	51	$ 0.73
1983	02-15-83	05-22-83	109	26,128,410	1.1	83	$ 0.35
	06-15-83[e]						
1984	02-15-84	08-01-84	52	23,940,984	1.1	147	$ 0.30
	08-01-84	12-31-84[f]		2,872,090	1.1	125	
1985	01-15-85	09-22-85	75	57,446,554	1.3	142	$ 0.30
	10-09-85	12-31-85[g]		8,552,321			
1986	01-15-86	09-24-86[h]	88	97,984,539	1.3	141	$ 0.60
1987	01-15-87	06-22-87	103	101,903,388	1.2	132	$ 0.75
1988	01-15-88	03-29-88	162	75,781,258	1.3	139	$ 0.75
	05-15-88	06-30-88	151	58,278,927	1.3	137	$ 0.80
			171	134,060,185	1.3	136	$ 0.77
1989	01-15-89	03-26-89	168	149,455,848	1.3	170	$ 0.75
		05-07-89					
1990	01-15-90	04-24-90[h]	177	94,831,897	1.2	148	
		06-12-90	152	66,989,453	1.3	130	
			189	161,821,350	1.3	141	$ 0.64
1991	01-15-91	05-05-91	218	240,090,666	1.3	206	
		06-23-91	186	88,556,603	1.2	153	
			220	328,647,269	1.2	191	$ 0.50
1992	01-15-92	04-22-92	250	315,302,034	1.4	177	$ 0.50
1993	01-15-93	03-15-93	254	230,787,000	1.4	175	$ 0.75
1994	01-15-94	03-01-94	273	149,775,765	1.3	160	$ 1.30
1995	01-15-95	02-17-95	253	75,252,677	1.3	117	$ 2.43

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Varied according to size.
[e]Partial Bering Sea closure.
[f]North of 58° only.
[g]West of 164° opened through 12-31-85.
[h]Open only west of 164° West longitude.

Table 23 Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by season and subdistrict, 1977/78-1995

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1977/78	Southeastern		33	1,063,872	1,439,959	11,560	1.4	0	0
	Pribilof		5	203,674	276,165	1,687	1.4	121	
	TOTAL	15	38	1,267,546	1,716,124	13,247	1.4	96	0
1978/79	Southeastern	101	476	21,279,794	31,102,832	184,491	1.5	115	659,137
	Pribilof	10	14	838,704	1,084,039	6,225	1.5	135	100,000
	TOTAL	102	490	22,118,498	32,187,039	190,746	1.5	116	759,137
1979/80	Southeastern	133	561	23,199,446	36,406,391	237,375	1.6	98	187,945
	Pribilof	19	36	2,087,331	3,166,777	17,727	1.5	118	40,400
	TOTAL	134	597	25,286,777	39,572,668	255,102	1.6	99	228,345
1981	Southeastern		624	24,498,642	37,866,229	309,304	1.6	79	1,475,078
	Pribilof		243	9,916,617	14,886,705	126,438	1.5	78	794,901
	TOTAL	153	867	34,415,322	52,750,034	435,742	1.5	79	2,269,979
1982	Southeastern		468	10,207,174	13,079,583	257,193	1.3	40	422,979
	Pribilof		335	13,882,388	16,276,421	211,898	1.2	66	669,676
	TOTAL	122	803	24,089,562	29,355,374	469,091	1.2	51	1,092,655

-Continued-

Table 23. (page 2 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1983	Southeastern		153	3,553,281	4,197,304	94,470	1.2	38	165,298
	Pribilof		239	19,076,553	20,514,000	153,458	1.0	124	1,078,643
	Northern		69	1,223,813	1,417,106	39,199	1.1	31	80,525
	TOTAL	109	461	23,853,647	26,128,410	287,127	1.1	83	1,324,466
1984	Southeastern		76	3,534,370	3,990,621	33,091	1.1	107	54,678
	Pribilof		230	17,909,096	19,727,493	112,078	1.1	160	708,706
	Northern		61	2,566,469	3,094,960	28,422	1.2	90	35,411
	TOTAL	52	367	24,009,935	26,813,074	173,591	1.1	138	798,795
1985	Southeastern	55	301	21,963,882	27,373,232	158,819	1.4	138	461,001
	Pribilof	60	301	24,089,526	29,804,093	142,937	1.2	168	505,146
	Northern	24	116	6,849,838	8,821,550	70,289	1.3	97	98,037
	TOTAL	75	718	52,903,246	65,998,875	372,045	1.3	142	1,064,184
1986	Southeastern	47	112	8,491,694	10,957,578	63,889	1.3	133	44,755
	Pribilof	80	508	39,851,767	50,525,150	281,337	1.3	142	472,342
	Northern	67	372	28,155,662	36,501,811	198,518	1.3	142	861,436
	TOTAL	88	992	76,499,123	97,984,539	543,744	1.3	141	1,378,533
1987	Southeastern	28	64	4,116,778	5,106,473	24,619	1.2	167	24,619
	Pribilof	94	458	38,604,802	47,676,734	261,337	1.2	148	261,337
	Northern	99	516	38,586,079	49,120,181	330,157	1.2	117	330,157
	TOTAL	103	1,038	81,307,659	101,903,388	616,113	1.2	132	978,449

-Continued-

Table 23. (page 3 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1988	Eastern	162	770	59,811,702	75,781,258	431,310	1.3	139	775,104
	Western	151	515	45,904,635	58,278,927	335,597	1.3	137	2,484,916
	TOTAL	171	1,285	105,716,337	134,060,185	776,907	1.3	136	3,260,020
1989	Eastern	163	871	77,698,698	104,399,693	391,451	1.3	198	1,128,971
	Western	127	470	34,920,183	45,056,155	271,991	1.3	128	715,711
	TOTAL	168	1,341	112,618,881	149,455,848	663,442	1.3	170	1,844,682
1990	Eastern	177	956	76,331,829	94,831,897	512,259	1.2	149	1,010,755
	Western	152	659	52,645,809	66,989,453	399,354	1.3	132	785,909
	TOTAL	189	1,565	128,977,638	161,821,350	911,613	1.3	141	1,796,664
1991	Eastern	218	2,013	190,139,612	240,090,666	912,751	1.3	208	1,593,021
	Western	186	867	74,984,348	88,556,603	478,832	1.2	157	1,871,015
	TOTAL	220	2,788	265,123,960	328,647,269	1,391,583	1.2	191	3,464,036
1992	Eastern	250	N/A	217,375,564	302,363,005	1,228,280	1.4	177	2,268,467
	Western	55	N/A	10,001,018	12,939,029	53,516	1.3	187	57,385
	TOTAL	250	2,763	227,376,582	315,302,034	1,281,796	1.4	177	2,325,852

-Continued-

Table 23. (page 4 of 4)

Season	Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
1993	Eastern	251	1,384	110,760,099	151,328,721	675,996	1.4	164	1,108,520
	Western	185	633	58,798,743	79,458,279	295,050	1.4	197	465,432
	TOTAL	254	1,836	169,558,842	230,787,000	971,046	1.4	175	1,573,952
1994	Eastern	220	820	56,012,017	72,008,424	375,928	1.3	149	901,674
	Western	171	586	58,766,997	77,767,341	340,596	1.3	173	897,649
	TOTAL	273	1,293	114,779,014	149,775,765	716,524	1.3	160	1,799,323
1995	Eastern	217	627	32,630,348	39,736,986	313,910	1.2	102	657,051
	Western	153	357	27,981,063	35,515,691	192,892	1.3	142	630,118
	TOTAL	253	869	60,611,411	75,252,677	506,802	1.2	117	1,287,169

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 24. Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by subdistrict and month, 1995.

Subdistrict	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Deadloss[b]
January								
Eastern	181	287	18,838,182	23,028,021	148,657	1.2	125	312,984
Western	104	164	15,372,627	19,484,798	89,094	1.3	170	313,317
Total	239	410	34,210,809	42,512,819	237,751	1.2	142	626,301
February								
Eastern	191	340	13,792,166	16,708,965	165,253	1.2	82	344,067
Western	129	193	12,608,436	16,030,892	103,798	1.3	119	316,801
Total	237	459	26,400,602	32,739,858	269,051	1.2	96	660,868
Subdistrict Total								
Eastern	217	627	32,630,348	39,736,986	313,910	1.2	102	657,051
Western	153	357	27,981,063	35,515,691	192,892	1.3	142	630,118
Season Total	253	869	60,611,411	75,252,677	506,802	1.2	117	1,287,169

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 25. Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by statistical area, 1995.

Area	Landings	Number of Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Pulled	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead - loss[b]
665500	4	106,524	158,380	1,195	1.5	89	3,450
665530	3	78,933	103,914	495	1.3	162	250
675530	24	986,281	1,184,003	15,011	1.2	66	17,361
675600	27	991,895	1,241,753	12,148	1.3	82	38,365
675630	10	301,348	338,956	2,873	1.1	105	11,617
685530	6	193,206	235,225	2,042	1.2	95	11,526
685600	39	1,609,246	1,972,990	15,631	1.2	103	14,645
685630	23	835,360	1,028,883	9,819	1.2	85	14,014
695600	7	268,530	338,790	1,987	1.3	135	1,461
705600	17	493,088	610,887	4,940	1.2	100	9,470
705630	11	169,621	212,000	2,307	1.3	74	1,950
705701	5	15,045	20,346	341	1.4	44	50
715600	20	427,813	525,221	5,298	1.2	81	7,300
715630	168	6,350,716	7,755,436	65,750	1.2	97	139,046
715700	111	4,078,175	5,022,810	39,319	1.2	104	70,516
715730	17	530,598	616,550	5,055	1.2	105	6,578
725600	3	113,788	140,648	1,030	1.2	111	62,727
725630	105	4,465,269	5,527,438	42,601	1.2	105	
725700	131	5,579,504	6,602,329	49,514	1.2	113	112,532
725730	76	3,816,550	4,573,954	26,069	1.2	146	130,496
725800	19	720,419	929,891	5,566	1.3	129	7,578
735630	14	326,937	408,305	2,707	1.3	121	5,534
735700	56	1,975,204	2,458,383	18,123	1.3	109	34,909
735730	127	7,019,426	8,828,540	50,330	1.3	140	167,900
735800	94	50,001,270	6,523,529	35,778	1.3	140	88,929
735830	30	839,930	1,311,069	5,942	1.6	141	18,731
745800	57	2,770,774	3,724,682	19,287	1.3	144	72,208
745830	79	5,760,383	6,544,541	30,406	1.1	189	121,733
755800	3	53,408	77,392	531	1.5	101	537
755830	53	3,203,677	4,249,947	22,032	1.3	145	56,610
765830	10	280,384	378,304	2,588	1.4	108	4,364
765900	3	121,076	167,233	497	1.4	244	40,850
775930	3	75,912	113,004	825	1.5	92	29
Other	29	1,050,121	1,327,344	14,765	1.3	71	22,747
Total	869	60,611,411	75,252,677	506,802	1.3	117	1,287,169

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 26. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* Tanner crab economic performance, 1979/80-1995.

Season		Season	Number of		Number of Pots		Value		
Year	GHL[a]	Total[a]	Vessels	Landings	Registered[b]	Pulled	Exvessel	Total[c]	Length[d]
1979/80	N/A	39.3	134	597	35,503	255,022	$ 0.21	$ 83.0	307
1981	[e]	50.5	153	867	39,789	435,742	$ 0.26	$ 13.1	229
1982	[f]	28.3	112	803	35,522	469,091	$ 0.73	$ 20.7	167
1983	15.8	24.8	109	462	15,39	287,127	$ 0.35	$ 8.7	120
1984[g]	49.0	26.0	52	367	12,493	173,591	$ 0.30	$ 7.8	320
1985[g]	98.0	64.9	75	718	15,325	372,045	$ 0.30	$ 19.5	333
1986[g]	57.0	96.6	88	992	13,750	543,744	$ 0.60	$ 60.0	252
1987	56.4	100.9	103	1,038	19,386	616,113	$ 0.75	$ 75.7	158
1988	110.7	130.8	171	1,285	38,765	776,907	$ 0.77	$100.7	120
1989	132.0	147.6	168	1,341	43,607	663,442	$ 0.75	$110.7	112
1990	139.8	160.0	189	1,565	46,440	911,613	$ 0.64	$102.3	148
1991	315.0	325.2	220	2,788	76,056	1,391,583	$ 0.50	$162.6	159
1992	333.0	313.0	250	2,763	77,858[h]	1,281,796	$ 0.50	$156.5	97
1993	207.2	229.2	254	1,836	65,081[h]	971,046	$ 0.75	$171.9	59
1994	105.8	148.0	273	1,293	54,837[h]	716,524	$ 1.30	$192.4	45
1995	55.7	74.0	253	869	53,707[h]	506,802	$ 2.43	$180.0	33

[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Same gear as *C. bairdi* fishery.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]In days.
[e]Published range 39.5-91.0.
[f]Published range 16.0-22.0
[g]Partial closures only.
[h]Gear of *C. opilio* vessels only.

Table 27. Historic Bering Sea *C. tanneri* Tanner crab catch, 1993-1995.

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Crab[a]	Harvest[a,b]	Pots Lifted	Average Weight[b]	CPUE[c]	Dead-loss[b]
1993	6	18	342,095	658,796	35,650	1.9	9	71,000
1994	4	12	165,365	332,454	13,739	2.0	11	30,585
1995	8	47	456,857	966,846	55,901	2.1	8	66,829

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per unit effort.

Table 28. Bering Sea *C. tanneri* Tanner crab economic performance, 1993-1995.

Year	Season Total[a]	Number of Vessels	Number of Landings	Number of Pots Registered	Number of Pots Pulled	Value Exvessel	Value Total[b]	Season Length Days	Season Length Dates
1993	587,796		18	2700	35,650	$0.94	$0.6	365	01/1-12/31
1994	301,869	6	12	732	13,739	$1.20	$0.4	365	01/1-12/31
1995	900,017	4	47	NA	55,901	$1.40	$1.3	365	01/1-12/31
		8							

[a]Deadloss not included.
[b]Millions of dollars.

Table 29. Pot limits for the Bering Sea fisheries in 1995/96.

Fishery	Pot Limits	
	vessels <=125 Feet	vessels >125 Feet
St. Matthew king crab	60	75
Norton Sound king crab	40	50
St. Lawrence king crab	40	50
Pribilof Red king crab	40	50
Bristol Bay king crab	200	250
Bering Sea Tanner crab	200	250

Table 30. Number of buoy tags printed and issued by tag type, 1995/96.

Fishery and Tag Code	Number of Tags Printed <=125[a]	Number of Tags Printed >125[a]	Color	Number of Tag Sets Issued <=125[a]	Number of Tag Sets Issued >125[a]	Number of Tags Issued <=125[a]	Number of Tags Issued >125[a]
Pribilof King Crab Series A	None[b]	6,000	Garnet	115	15	4,650	750
St. Matthew King Crab Series B	6,000	3,750	Orange	52	38	3,120	2,850
Bering Sea Bairdi Tanner Crab Series C	40,000	25,000	Brown	134	62	25,575	15,202
Bering Sea Opilio Tanner Crab Series D	40,000	25,000	Pink	153	85	29,190	20,754
Totals	86,000	59,750		454	200	62,535	39,556
Totals for Vessels of Both size categories	145,750			654		102,091	

[a]Vessel length in feet

[b]For vessels less than 125 feet, 40 tags were sold out of sets of 50 and the 10 remaining tags were voided

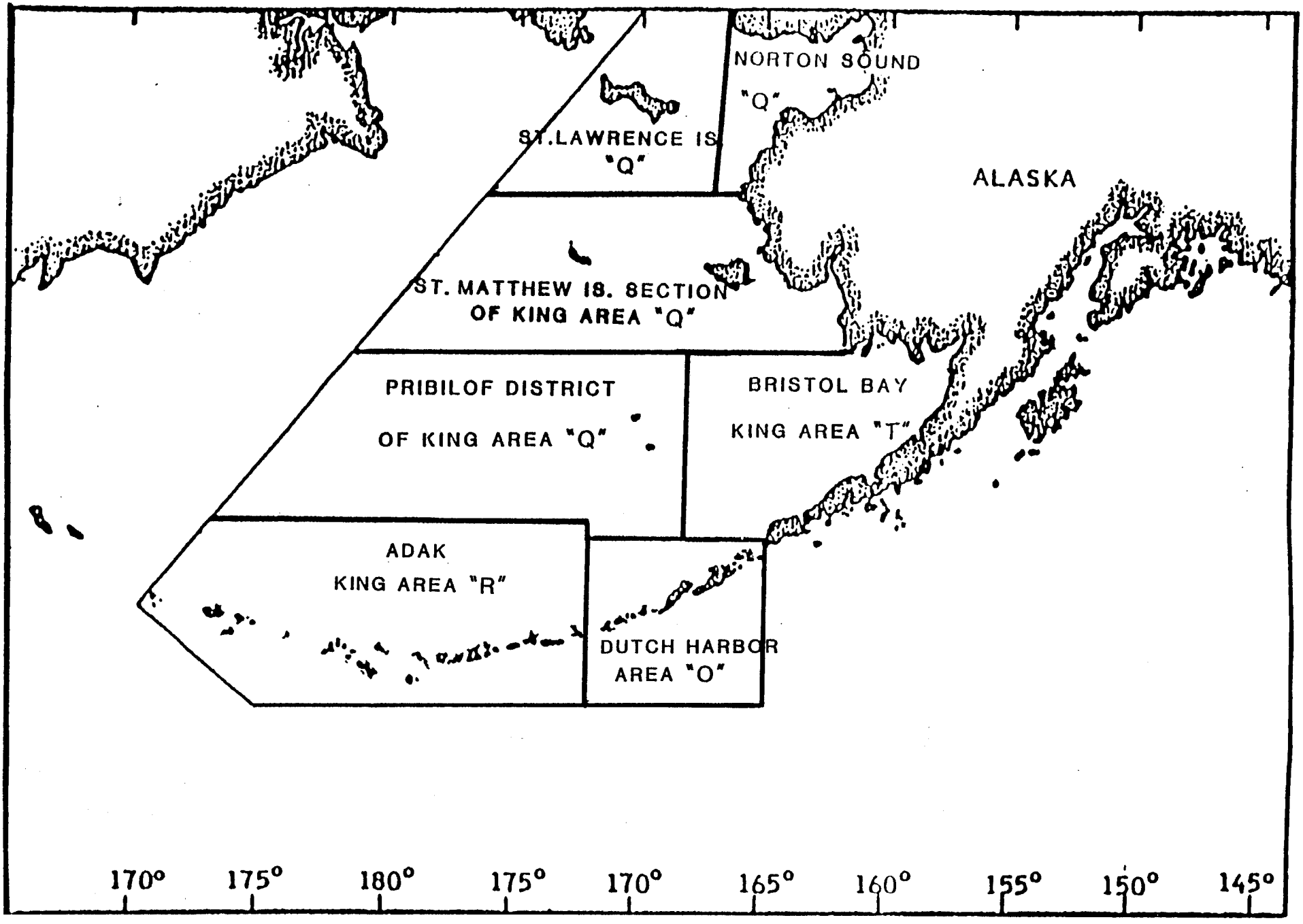

Figure 1. King crab areas, districts, and sections in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands.

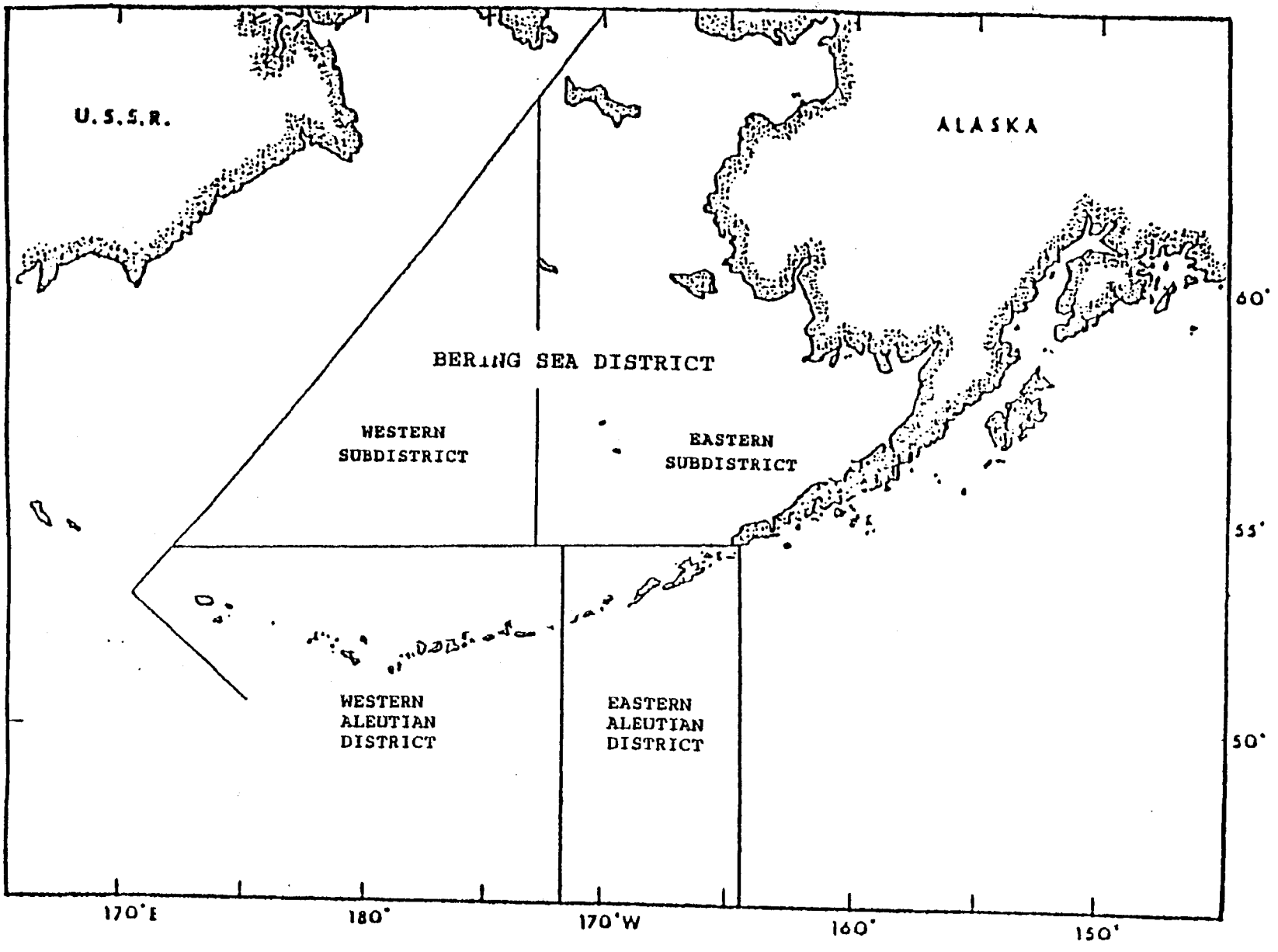

Figure 2. Bering Sea Tanner crab district and subdistricts.

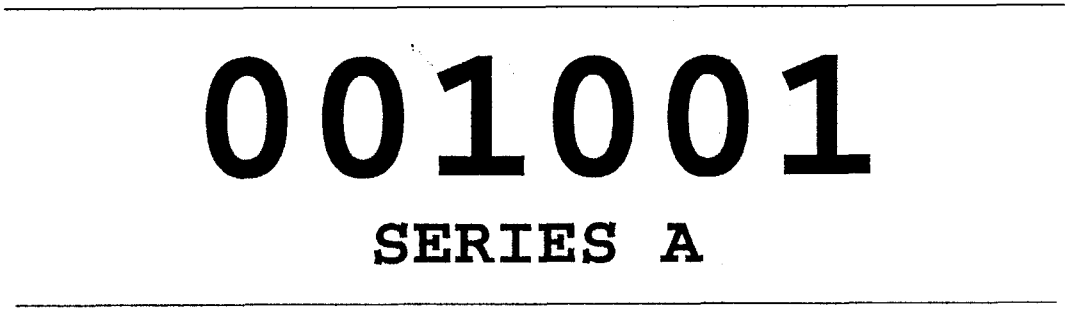

Figure 3. Scale drawing of tag used during the 1995/96 Bering Sea fisheries with imposed pot limits.